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Negotiated settlement 'almost certain'

Continued from page 1

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Sadat's killers executed

Five Muslim fundamentalists were executed in Egypt for the assassination of President Sadat, hours after their pleas for mercy had been rejected by President Mubarak. Two who had military status were shot by a firing squad and three civilians were hanged at a military base outside Cairo Page 4

Takeover after savings panic

The United States Government has seized control of one of the country's biggest savings and loans associations after nervous savers withdrew more than $70m in a week. The move, reminiscent of the 1930s, has been described as "nationalization" Page 11

Mailer protégé sentenced

Jack Henry Abbott, the criminal who became Norman Mailer's protégé, was sentenced in New York to 15 years to life imprisonment for stabbing to death a 22-year-old waiter with whom he had an argument.

Warsaw protest

Lecturers and students at Warsaw University are protesting against the dismissal of Professor Henryk Samsonowicz as rector. The fear that this may herald a toughening of the Polish leadership's policy towards universities. Page 5

Teachers split

The National Union of Teachers voted against corporal punishment in schools, while the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers favoured its use at teachers' discretion. Back page

Flags for Queen

Ottawa was decked with flags to celebrate the arrival of the Queen to proclaim the breaking of Canada's final constitutional link with Britain. Page 5

Family relief

President Reagan has proposed a controversial and costly programme of tax reliief for families whose children attend private and religious schools Page 5

Mellish at risk

Mr Robert Mellish, MP for Southwark, Bermondsey, could be expelled from the Labour Party as a result of moves now set in motion Page 2

Pope's talks

There will be no significant reduction in the time the Pope spends in discussion with church leaders at Canterbury, despite reports that it would be halved. Page 2

Thames site

Eight models for the £200m development at Vauxhall bridge on the south bank of the Thames in London went on public show. Page 3

TV actor dies

Arthur Lowe, the actor best remembered for his role in the television series, *Dad's Army*, died at Birmingham General Hospital yesterday after a stroke. He was 66. Obituary, page 8

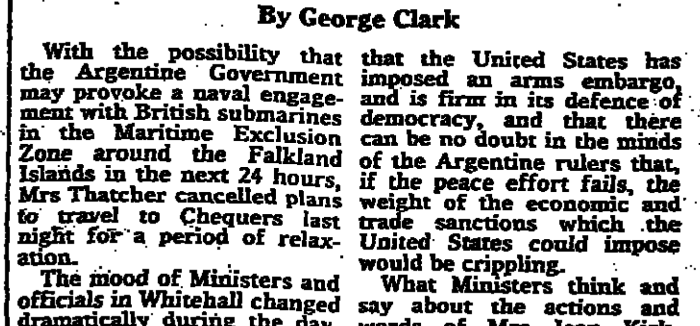
Borg to qualify

Bjorn Borg was told last night he has to qualify for Wimbledon if he wishes to play in the championships beginning June 21

Preview

In Preview, *The Times* entertainment lift-out guide, this week: London's repertory cinemas, the BRM roars again at Silverstone, Jacobi and Cusack at Stratford-upon-Avon.

Thatcher puts off break after naval alert



By George Clark

With the possibility that the Argentine Government may provoke a naval engagement with British submarines in the Maritime Exclusion Zone around the Falkland Islands in the next 24 hours, Mrs Thatcher cancelled plans to travel to Chequers last night for a period of relaxation.

The mood of Ministers and officials in Whitehall changed dramatically during the day, after reliable reports had been received from intelligence sources that units of the Argentine Navy were preparing to put to sea.

Mrs Thatcher crossed from Downing Street to the Department of Defence to get an up-to-date briefing on the situation from the Chiefs of Staff, and remained there for two and a half hours. She was accompanied by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, and Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary.

Later, at Downing Street, she had talks with other Ministers, and then let it be known that she would not be going to Chequers after all. She wanted to remain in London to receive information direct from the blockade zone. There was a suspicion in Whitehall that the Argentine Government might send naval units to sea, and order them to sail along the edge of the prohibited zone.

Earlier in the day, Whitehall officials were taking a more relaxed view of the crisis, referring to a "lull" in diplomatic and military activity while Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, flew from Washington to Buenos Aires with "new ideas" for a peaceful settlement.

What the "ideas" were, no one would disclose. The one firm, consistent line coming from Downing Street was that Mr Haig knew, without doubt, that Mrs Thatcher and the British Government would not consider any diplomatic solution until the Argentine invaders had completely withdrawn from the Falkland Islands.

There are signs that some MPs would not reject the idea of a United Nations peace-keeping force replacing the Argentines when they got out, but the Government is not willing to consider it. British sovereignty must be restored before any other solution can be contemplated, Ministers said.

During the discussions at the Department of Defence, it was agreed that more merchant ships would be chartered if the need arose.

When the Prime Minister returned to Downing Street it was clear that the "lull" had been replaced by an alert, and all Ministers are remaining in close touch with Downing Street in case emergency ministerial meetings are called.

There was great anxiety in Goverment circles about the impression being given in some reports that Mrs Thatcher and other Ministers were angry with the United States Government for not imposing economic sanctions on Argentina.

It was emphasized that if Mr Haig is effectively to continue his rôle as "honest broker" he has to retain the confidence of both sides in the dispute, and that the British Government is grateful to him.

It was being pointed out that the United States has imposed an arms embargo, and is firm in its defence of democracy, and that there can be no doubt in the minds of the Argentine rulers that, if the peace effort fails, the weight of the economic and trade sanctions which the United States could impose would be crippling.

What Ministers think and say about the actions and words of Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, is another matter. One Minister said: "Her appearance at the dinner party with the Argentinians was deplorable. We are not impressed by her performance at all."

Ministers said they had to accept that it must be for the United States Government to judge what it could or should not do in order to carry out the role is had chosen.

□The possible sailing of more units of the Argentins Navy in the general direction of the Falkland Islands was announced by the Ministry of Defence last night. Later reports that they had already left were not immediately confirmed in London (Henry Stanhope writes).

British naval intelligence does not expect them to cross into the 200-mile zone (MEZ) established around the islands by hunter-killer submarines last Monday. A spokesman, quoting "some indications" of imminent naval movements in Argentina, said Whitehall could only speculate on their intentions.

The gravity of the crisis was reflected in the briefing given by the Chiefs of Staff to the Prime Minister and other Ministers. It is also clear that a call-up of the reserves is under review, though no decision is thought to be imminent.

The Ministry of Defence still refuse to confirm Argentine claims that two 90-foot police patrol craft had broken through the MEZ on Wednesday night and reached Port Stanley.

Earlier Argentine publicity about the exploits of their patrol boats has already been disputed by the Ministry.

On the other hand, a Ministry statement last night to the effect that no "major" warship had yet brokent the Royal Navy's blockade, was in itself significant. Officials agreed that "major" would not usually describe a patrol boat.

Two indisputably major warships, an Argentine frigate and a destroyer, remain at sea, as they have all the time, without crossing the forbidden line.

Rumours about trouble on HMS Hermes, the 23,000-ton carrier, and flagship of the Royal Navy's task Force have been denied by the Ministry of Defence.



Mr Ronald Lamb, the Falklands chief of police, holds up a pebble from the beach where the Argentine invaders landed as he arrives at Gatwick. Mr Rex Hunt, Governor of the Falklands, (right) greets the islanders.

Falklands invaders go begging for food

By David Hewson

Mr Dick Baker, the expelled Chief Secretary of the Falklands, said yesterday when he arrived in Britain that Argentine soldiers on the islands were so hungry they had taken to begging for food.

He told reporters at Gatwick Airport after flying in with 30 exiled Falklanders: "They come to the doors, they came to mine. They told me in sign language what they wanted.

"They looked very miserable. People are giving them food, as we did. As my wife said, it could be your own son standing there." They had even started to kill sheep.

Half of the group which arrived in Britain yesterday had been expelled by the Argentines. The rest had left for family or medical reasons. Mr Rex Hunt, the exiled governor who was ordered out shortly after the invasion, met the party at the airport and was given an emotional welcome.

Mr Ronald Lamb, the chief constable, stepped off the aircraft holding a pebble from the invasion beach and said that he wanted to return to pick up another. A woman islander threw her arms around Mr Hunt and asked when she would be able to go back to her home.

But most of the party was in a subdued mood after the 11 hours 30 minutes flight from Brazil, where they had travelled after being flown from the Falklands to Montevideo.

Mr Baker said: "Morale amongst Falkland Islanders is very good indeed, morale amongst the occupying forces I'm not so sure about.

"My main impression among the young soldiers is that they are very upset because they are not received with open arms which they were led to believe they would be.

Continued on back page, col 2

27 years for the Terence May gang

By David Nicholson-Lord

Ten young blacks were sentenced to a total of 27 years and six months in prison or detention at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for their part in a night of violence in Thornton Heath, south London, last year which culminated in the stabbing to death of a disabled white youth.

The sentences, which included one of eight years for manslaughter on Ronald Pilgrim, aged 24, and one of the leaders of the riot, were greeted with crying and gasps of disbelief from the crowded public gallery filled with defendants' relatives.

Pilgrim's common-law wife was removed from the gallery screaming: "He is innocent". On his way out of the dock, Pilgrim called Mr Justice Farquharson a "dirty bastard."

Garry Huggins, aged 23, was jailed for five years for riot. Th judge described him as the "mastermind" of an attack on public house in Thornton Heath. "You set off a train of violence that night that culminated in that dreadful tragedy", the judge said.

Mr Justice Farquharson told the defendants that he accepted they suffereds provocation and insults from whites in the days before the attack, and they also had to face prejudice because of their colour. But the revenge they took on innocent people was "out of all proportion."

He added: "I entirely reject any suggestion that you are justified in any way in what you did."

The ten, aged from 16 to 24, had been found guilty of 10 charges of riot, five of affray and in one case of the manslaughter of Terence May, aged 19. The sentences came after a trial which lasted more than seven weeks, cost an estimated £500,000 and was described by the judge as "shot through with malice and racial hatred."

It also set a new record for the length of a jury retirement, of eight nights and nine days, and made legal history by hearing verdicts over Easter, the first time this is thought to have happened at the court since its establishment in 1834.

The sentences followed a plea for leniency by Mr Rudi Narayan, the leading black defence counsel, on the ground that the judge had an historic opportunity to improve worsening race relations in Britain.

Mr Narayan said the blacks had acted in self-defence in a "natural and spontaneous uprising" against humiliating attacks by fascist hoodlums.

Earlier yesterday, two on whom the jury could not reach majority verdicts were acquitted after the Crown decided against retrial. David Collins, aged 19, was cleared of murder and Robert Reid, aged 18, of riot. The jury reached 22 of 24 verdicts but found no one guilty of murder.

Other sentences: Pilgrim, five years for riot and affray, to run concurrently with the manslaughter sentence; Collins, four years concurrently for riot and affray; Garnett Hanson, aged 16, two years' detention concurrently for riot and affray' Dwight Lewin, 18, two years for riot; Joel Wright, 18, and Patrick Taylor, 19, three years concurrently for riot and affray; Paul Brown, 18, and Norman Dawkins, 19, borstal training for riot; Derek Chambers, six months for riot.

Background, page 2
Leading article, page 7

Railmen in crisis talks over job cuts

By Donald Macintyre

The three rail unions are to hold a two-day crisis meeting with British Rail next month to discuss the network's future in the light of figures forecasting a £165m group trading loss for 1982, given by the board yesterday.

Sir Peter Parker, British Rail chairman, yesterday told the unions that two thirds of the loss would directly result from the crippling strikes earlier in the year during the train drivers' dispute.

He said the board was seeking to shed 5,000 jobs in BR's 13 railway workshops by 1986 to reduce spare capacity. Unions expect BR to announce plans to close three or four of the workshops. Urgent talks are to begin on the issue soon.

Board members made clear yesterday that they would not discuss the unions' annual pay claim, for "substantial" rises close to the inflation rate, until the flexible rostering issue at the heart of the train drivers' dispute was settled.

Lord McCarthy's tribunal is reviewing the dispute, which arose from the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen's refusal to accept an end to their eight-hour day, but is not expected to report this month.

Union leaders, impatient for firmer commitments on electrification from Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, have also been told that the minister is not prepared to discuss rail investment with the unions until the dispute is resolved.

The engineering workshops surplus results partly from new technology and partly from the recession and the failure to win adequate export orders. BR estimates that by the end of this year it will have 3,500 more men than it needs.

The losses will be in addition to the 7,000 posts BR intends to cut this year as part of its overall programme to reduce jobs by 38,000 from 1980 to 1985.

Sir Peter told the unions bluntly yesterday that, while some progress had been made in recovering freight business lost during the Aslef dispute, BR had been less successful on the passenger and parcels side. The 1982 loss is likely to be more than three times that for 1981, which although not yet published is understood to be less than £50m.

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said last night that Sir Peter had seen the difficulty of avoiding conflict. "There is going to be a state-of-the-nation discussion so that if we are going to have to fight at least we will know what we are fighting about".

Beirut's gunmen herald a new feud

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, April 15

All night the shelling went on, from the Kurdish slums around Kantari in a great arc through the west of Beirut to the perimeter of the sity's international airport, a belt of more than four miles in which the individual bombardments melted into a long roar of sound.

Every few minutes, behind the floodlit clock of the American University, a distant pink tracer bullet would move gracefully in front of the moon. The gunmen of Lebanon's historically repressed Shia Muslim community — there are almost a million in the country — were making their voice heard.

That, at least, was what many Lebanese concluded this morning as the city's gendarmerie conducted one of the few tasks they are permitted to undertake with impunity: counting the dead. In Beirut and the countryside of southern Lebanon, 47 men and women had been killed; in the Sidon mortuary 11 of the dead are civilians.

After months of rural confict between Amal, the Shia militia movement, and its left-wing enemies, their complex battles had at last arrived in the Lebanese capital. But they came with a vengeance nobody expected. On the surface, the private armies were fighting for territory, while the Palestinians, so it was said this morning, were trying to enforce a ceasefire, even if some of their guerrillas had become involved in the fighting.

No conflict begins in Lebanon without good reason, and it is significant that Mr Walid Jumblatt, the left-wing National Movement leader, has just called elections in west Beirut. His Druze militia and its allies — pro-Iraqis and Communists — are anxious to demonstrate some electoral control over the Muslim districts there.

It is not in Amal's interest to see its burgeoning political strength sapped by R Jumblatt's little democracy. Long ignored by Lebanese governments, but newly inspired by Ayatollah Khomeini's phoenix in Iran, the country's Shia Muslims intend to share some power in Lebanon that emerges from the civil wars.

In east Beirut, the Phalangists took some satisfaction from the battles, suggesting that Amal was directing its enmity towards the Palestinians rather than Mr Jumblatt's men. But it ws no the truth: the Palestine Liberation Organization is seeking a ceasefire at a moment when they want Lebanon's attention to be directed towards the violence in the occupied West Bank.

Photograph, back page

Argentine right fears Russia

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, April 15

President Galtieri's hold on the military junta in Argentina appears to be increasingly unsure as the Falklands crisis moves into its most critical stage.

Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, is due here tomorrow from Washington for possibly a last attempt to prevent a naval conflict between Britain and Argentina. His task will not be made easier by further belligerent remarks by General Galtieri.

The extreme right of Argentine society, which controls much of the nation's private wealth, braved the generals wrath today by taking out a full-page newspaper advertisement to express fears about a drift towards domination by the Soviet Union.

The Society for the defence of Tradition and Family, a mainly Roman Catholic group, said in the mass circulation newspaper *Clarin* that independance from communist tyranny was more important than retaining sovereignty over the Falklands.

It appears that huge amounts of private capital have been secretly deposited abroad since the crisis began and so far about 10 per cent of all private deposits in Argentine banks are believed to have been withdrawn.

There is a flourishing black market in United States dollars.

The unease of the commercial classes over the Falklands affair and its economic ramificatons has not been publicly expressed before today. The advertisement in *Clarin* pointed to the extensive trade agreements with the Soviet Union, which is Argentina's biggest export market, and expressed alarm at the reported presence of Russian submarines in the South Atlantic.

"If Russia joins Argentina, the United States will most surely support Britain", it said. "In this way the Malvinas could give rise to a third world war and Argentina could become part of the Soviet block."

General Galtieri's handling of the crisis is causing increasing alarm among diplomats in Buenos Aires. Throughout the affair, his public statements have been regarded as simplistic, hard-line and populist and the timing of his latest outburst is seen as acutely insensitive.

The claim to the Falklands was unrenounceable, he declared in a message that the nation was expecting to be delivered in a television broadcast, but which was finally issued to local news agencies. Millions of people sat before their television sets in vain.

He said he was committed

continued on back page, col. 6

Israeli soldier cleared of one Muslim killing

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, April 15

Israeli police sources confirmed today that only one of the two Muslims killed during Sunday's shooting on the holy Temple Mount in Jerusalem could have been shot by the prime suspect, Mr Allan Goodman, an Israeli soldier now in custody.

The police investigators' findings follow claims by local Arab leaders that other gunmen may have been involved in the shootings which caused an Arab eurore throughout the occupied territories and many parts of the Muslim world. It has been reported that thousands of rounds of ammunition were fired in the area on Sunday.

The police sources base their findings on the place where the second victim, Mr Gihad Ibrahim Bader, aged 21, was standing when he was hit in the chest by a single bullet. It is also believed that he was killed sometime after Mr Goodman had emptied his M16 rifle of ammunition and been apprehended by the security forces.

According to Mr Bader's family, he fell wounded in Souk Al-Kattanin opposite the main entrance to the Dome of the Rock at about 10.30 am, while Mr Goodman was apprehended almost an hour earlier.

As yet, the police have not released details about the type of weapon used to kill Mr Bader. But Israel radio reported today that detectives had discovered that six of the Palestinians wounded on the Temple Mount were not hit by bullets fired from Mr Goodman's automatic rifle.

Earlier this week, members of the Higher Muslim Council claimed that an investigation of the damage done to the Dome of the Rock by some 100 bullets showed that they had not only been fired from the west, the direction from which Mr Goodman approached the building with his rifle blazing.

Mr Anwar Nusseibeh, a former Jordanian Defence Minister, said that bullets had also been fired from the south-west and the south-east, the direction of the Jewish quarter of the Old City and the Mount of Olives.

The new evidence has been embarrassing to the Israeli government, which has been at pains to emphasize that the fatal shooting was the work of one mentally deranged man.

Israel radio reported that members of the security forces had fired in the air for a whole hour in order to drive back Arab mobs on the Temple Mount after the original attack. Investigators were said to have recovered some 3,000 cartridges

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Castle may become study centre

Llangoed Castle, one of the principal creations of the late Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, the architect who designed the Italianate *Portmeirion village* in Gwynedd; is on the brink of being purchased by a London-based company, Millenium, which plans to use the house as a centre for the arts and sciences and for conferences.

Llangoed stands between Brecon and Builth Wells, Powys. There has been concern about *the state of* decay of the property, which has not been lived in by its owner, Mr Gerald Chichester, for some ten years. Mr Chichester was refused permission by Brecknock Borough Council to demolish the house because it is a listed property.

Mr Hugh Berger, a director of Millemium, said restoration *might* cost more than £400,000.

Bergman illness report denied



Reports that Miss Ingrid Bergman, the actress, was gravely ill in London with a fresh outbreak of cancer *were denied last night (Derek* Barnett writes).

A reliable source said: "She is really okay". Miss Bergman, who is 66, has had two masectomies, in 1974 and 1979.

□ In New York yesterday a spokesman for Miss Bergman's agent said the actress *had spent* a short time in hospital "but is now back home in London and feeling better. Miss Bergman is aware of all the interest in her health and thanks everyone for their concern."

Correction

In the report on April 13 of the *Plessey sit-in at Bathgate, the* passage referring to political reaction should have read: "Mr Tam Dalyell, the local Labour MP, hailed the decision as a 'victory for the workers'. Mr James Sillars, the Scottish National Party chairman, predicted that other threatened Scottish workers would follow the Plessey example."

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 28: Bahrain BD 0.650: Belgium B frs 40: Canada $2.50: Canaries Pes 125: Cyprus 550 mils: Denmark Dkr 7: Dubai Dir 7.00: Finland Mkk 7.00: France Frs 7.00: Germany DM 3.50. Greece Dr 80: Holland Gl 3.25: Iran IR 135: Iraq LD 0.500: Irish Republic 30p: Italy L 1800: Jordan LD 0.425: Kuwait KD 0.500: Lebanon Ll 4.00: Luxembourg Lf 33: Madeira Esc 75: Malta 30c: Morocco Dir 7: Norway Kr 7.50: Oman OR 0.700: Pakistan Rps 13: Portugal Esc 90: Qatar QR 7.50: Saudi Arabia SR 4.50: Singapore $5.00: Spain Pes 125: Sweden Skr 8.00: Switzerland S Frs 3.00: Syria L$5.50: Tunisia Din 0.600: USA $1.50: UAE Dir 7.00: Yugoslavia Din 50.

Labour moves to expel 'rebel' Mellish

By Richard Evans

Moves that could lead to the expulsion from the Labour Party of Mr Robert Mellish, MP for Southwark, Bermondsey, were set in motion *yesterday after his* decision to back independent candidates in next month's local government elections.

Last night Mr David Hughes, Labour's national agent was considering evidence provided by Bermondsey's constituency party after the disclosure in *The Times* that Mr Mellish is backing three independents who are standing against official Labour candidates in the Riverside ward of Southwark, south-east London.

Mr Mellish, an MP for 36 years and a former Labour Chief Whip, confirmed yesterday that he encouraged Mrs Coral Newell, a Labour councillor rejected as a party candidate, to stand as an independent in the elections for Southwark borough council.

He intends to spend for Mrs Newell, Mr James Patrick and Mrs Barbara Burgess, who are standing as Independent Labour and Tenant candidates. Neither Mr Patrick nor Mrs Burgess is a member of the Labour Party.

Mr Mellish said yesterday he was backing Mrs Newell and her colleagues because "the three official Labour candidates are a load of rubbish". He added: "They were selected at a ward meeting in a manner I consider was disgraceful. The meeting was packed with squatters.

"If I had not decided to give support to people like her I would have been held in contemp by local Bermondsey people. I do not care what Bermondsay Labour Party thinks, says or does."

A leaflet distributed to electors backing the three independents quotes Mr Mellish as giving them hes support. Next week a letter from the MP will be sent out urging voters to support the trio.

A copy of the leaflet has been sent to Mr Hughes. He can recommend that an inquiry be set up, which could propose the expulsion of Mr Mellish from the party. A similar recommendation could be made by Lewisham West constituency Labour Part, which covers the area where Mr Mellish lives, Labour officials said yesterday.

Mr Donald Shiach, chairman of Bermondsey CLP, said yesterday: "We are astonished that Bob Mellish should take this decision".

Mrs Newell, who says she is on the middle-left of the Labour party, said yesterday she failed to be selected as Labour candidate because she had not joined the blacklisting of Mr John O'Grady, the right-wing Labour leader of Southwark council.

She said she telephoned Mr Mellish asking for his advice about standing. "He told me immediately, 'Stand as Independent Labour and I will support you. You go out under the real Labour flag, my girl'."

She added: "He knew the position he was taking. He is putting his neck on the line".

Blunder to leave EEC, Ezra says

□ Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Bard, said yesterday that it would be a "colossal blunder" if the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Community, and a great deal of work had to be done to persuade the Labour Party and the trade union movement to reverse their policy. Sir Derek was addressing the Association of European Journalists in London.

Scots want wider use of Gaelic, survey says

By Jonathan Wills

If the Scots had their way the Gaelic language would be officially recognized or more widely used in schools, public life and broadcasting. That is the main conclusion of a study carried out for An Communn *Gaidhealach*, the Gaelic society by Mr Kenneth MacKinnon and published in England yesterday by Hatfiels Polytechnic, in Herfordshire.

In a questionnaire completed by 1,117 people, Mr MacKinnon found that even in lowland areas more than half of his sample favoured official recognition for the language. The proportion rose to 82 per cent in the Western Isles, and the national figure for Scotland was 54 per cent.

Overwhelming support or Gaelic as part of the school-curriculum came from the Gaelic-speaking areas, and nationally 70 per cent of respondents were in favour.

There appears to be less unanimity over Gaelic rakio and television programmes. Support for more air-time was high in the Western Isles, where the BBC's Gaelic language radio programmes have a big following, but fewer than half of the lowlanders thought Gaelic broadcasting should be increased.

Significantly perhaps, the former Scandinavian islands of Orkney and Shetland are not mentioned in the survey. In the far north there has beensomeresentment at having Gaelic programmes beamed at an area that mostly speaks lowland dialects

Gaelic enthusiasts who have recently been defacing English language road signs in scotland will draw some encouragement from the survey. Only a fifth of the Scots are against bilingual road signs, although there is no evidence of support for the actions of the spray-can vandals

Suresh Karadia



Anatoly Karpov, the world champion, pressing his attack against Nigel Short in London yesterday.

Karpov in London contest

Londons strongest ever chess gathering, the tournament, sponsored by Phillips and Drew and the Greater London Council, opened in great expectation at County Hall yesterday (Harry Golombek writes). Karpov, of the Soviet Union, pressed a Queen's side attack against Nigel Short, England's young hope. On other boards Mestel and Miles drew after 22 moves in the only game to finish on the day. In the Geller (USSR) v Andersson (Sweden) contest each player was battling against isolated central pawns.

Timman (Holland) had a blocked position against Speelman, while in the Nunn (England) v Spassky, (USSR) game the Russian had some initiative on the king side. Seirawan (US) and Portisch (Hungary) were also locked in against central pawns.

Canterbury talks trimmed, not halved

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The time Pope John Paul II spends in private discussion with other church leaders at Canterbury next month is not being significantly reduced, it was *stated in official* Roman Catholic circles yesterday.

Press reports had said that the period set aside for this most sensitive part of the Pope's visit had been halved.

The meeting between the Pope and other church leaders has been a delicate issue for several months, with suggestions that some churchmen might not attend if they did not like the way the occasion was being organized.

Those fears had apparently been put to rest by Cardinal Hume's announcement that a substantial period had been allowed both for formal and informal exchanges, but the issue was revived when a police officer disclosed that Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, the Pope's security adviser, had said that the meeting would have to be curtailed.

It was said yesterday that there was a misunderstanding.

The Pope's intinerary has had to be adjusted to allow him a 90-minute rest between Canterbury and his next engagement. It is pointed out that on that day, May 29, the Pope will leave the papal nunciature in Wimbledon before 7 am and will not return until aftrer 10 pm.

It is known that his physical condition after the attempted assassination last year is not as good as it was, and is suggested that that is also why the Canterbury event has had to be slightly altered

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday at Gatwick airport, where he was on his way to Nigeria, that the suggestion of a change in the arrangements was a great surprise to him.

After a day of intense consultations between senior Church of England and Roman Catholic officials responsible for the visit to Canterbury, a statement was eventually issued declaring that Lambeth Palace, Dr Runcies's official office, was not aware of any changes of substance

Unofficially, it was explained that both Dr Runcie and Cardinal Hume regard the time with church leaders as crucial, and any question of cutting it down would meet with their combined resistance. The Vatican, it is understood, is now aware of that.

□ A mail order firm has published a glossy catalogue of souvenirs of the Pope's visit (the Press Association reports). The products range from a 50p bookmark to a stained-glass icon and a platinum plaque costing more than £1,300.

They include towels, clocks, protraits, pens, spoons, rosaries and candleholders. C.C. Marketing, of Sutton, Surrey, has produced the catalogue.

Mgr Ralph Brown, central coordinator of the visit, said: "I hope the sales of these items will help considerably towards the expenses of the visits and that many people will be able to acquire a *fitting souvenir*".

Science report

Exergy: 24 hours that made a universe

By the Staff of "Nature"

The world is corcerned about a shortage of energy, but really it should be exergy, not energy, that concerns us. Exergy is energy which can be "expressed", which is available to do work. We need exergy to live. Plants need it to grow. Our exergy comes ultimely from the Sun, and it is solar exergy that is trapped in oil. But where did the Sun get it from?

The problem is that the very early universe had no exergy at all. The universe was then uniformly hot, with no differences from one part to another. With no thermal differences, no work could be done by one part of the universe on another because heat engines cannot function without a difference in temperature somewhere in the system.

A group of Swedish researchers now point out that the way the universe gained exergy, through which life became possible, required a very delicate balance in the laws of nature.

Exergy was created essentially because the universe was expanding too fast for thermal processes to keep up with it, Drs. E. Eriksson, S. Islam and B. S. Skagerstam of the Univeresity of Goteborg show in a paper in the journal *Nature*.

The main creation of nuclear exergy began 10 seconds after the beginning of the "big bang" the researchers calculate, and it was essentially complete within 24 hours. The stars, with the Sun among them, are now using up and radiating this first day's exergy.

The creation of exergy consisted of the trapping of energy in the form of *protons*, the nuclei of hydrogen atoms. Protons can react, releasing their free energy, by forming first deuterium nuclei and then helium nuclei. This is what happens in stars.

If the universe had been expanding slowly, it would have happened then too, distributing the free energy as heat throughout the universe.

In fact what happened was that the universe expanded extremely rapidly. The protons had little time to interact, and most were left unconsumed. Still there would be no exergy — the energy would be uniformly distributed — if gravity had not played its part. In time, this clumped the protons into stars. Here the simple weight of matter pushed the protons together, allowing the helium-forming reaction to progress and thus illuminating the universe with pinpoints of exergy — which could drive events such as life in the emptier universe round about.

The important question for living beings, therefore, is why the expansion was so fast — or why the proton reaction rates were so slow. Here, two apparent accidents contributed. First, the deuterium nucleus, the half-way-house to helium, is delicate; so it could not form while the universe was too hot and dense. By the time it could form, the protons were already some way apart. Second, the formation of both deuterium and helium is controlled by the conversion of protons into neutrons (deuterium contains one, helium two), and that process is caused by something known as the weak interaction — a fundamental force which, as its name suggests, is weak.

As to why deuterium is delicate and why the weak interaction is weak, there is no good answer at present. So the conclusion may be that we are lucky: if the universe had been but slightly different, we would not have had the exergy to tell the tale.

Source: *Nature* (vol 296, p540) April 8, 1982.

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The killing of Terence May

'Tragic accident' led to death in untroubled suburb

By David Nicholson-Lord

The death of a disabled white youth in a racial disturbance in south London last year was not characteristic of the summer riots of 1981. It occurred between the flare-ups in Brixton and Toxteth, in an unremarkable and apparently untroubled suburb. It was, in the word's widest meaning, a tragic accident.

Terry May was, as the prosecution said, "in the wrong place at the wrong time".

Minutes after a violent attack by black youths on the Wilton Arms public house, a gang of fleeing blacks came on Mr May. He was stabbed three times and died on the doorstep of a house near by.

No one was found guilty of murder, but questions of guilt and innocence at times appeared a side issue compared with the political noises off-stage.

Much of what occured at the trial centred on the background to the night of Monday, June 1, which ended in Mr May's death.

The preceding weekend in Thornton Heath was *one of* tit-for-tat violence and skirmishes between blacks and whites.

The defence cited 250 racialist attacks in the previous 18 months, complained of increased National Front activity, and said the Wilton Arms was being used as a "military" base for attacks by skinheads and Front supporters.

From there it was a comparatively short step to the defence contention that since police had turned a "blind eye" to complaints of assault and failed to protect blacks the latter had a right to defend themselves, an argument which brought the judge's prompt intervention.

It was also a small step to the public enumeration by the police of assaults in Croydon, listing the race of attacker and victim.

But the battle lines had been drawn much earlier, certainly by the time of the committal proceedings at Croydon last October. These took place in a highly charged racial atmosphere and were taking so long that the Crown halted them with the unusual device of a voluntary bill of indictment to bring the case to court.

Complaints about the conduct of Mr Rudi Narayan, the leading black defence counsel, and two colleagues were referred by the Attorney General to the Bar Council and are now being considered by its professional conduct committee.

Mr Narayan has responded with a statement attacking the Attorney General and the Director of Public Prosecutions for the "massive damage" they have caused to race relations and calling for their resignations — a statement described as defamatory and wholly untrue by the Attorney last night

But in an acrimonious exchange with journalists outside the courtroom — an affair not untypical of the later stages of the case and indicative of the defence's view of the press reporting of the case — Mr Sibghat Kadri, another defence counsel, said he, not Mr Narayan, had written a controversial newspaper article on the proceedings.

The evidence, meanwhile, was elicited by some two dozen barristers, almost half of them coloured, assessed by a jury culled of National Front sympathizers and containing five blacks and two Asians, and provided largely by a series of teenage black victims.

Some of them, lounging in the witness box and casting frequent glances towards the dock, had clearly decided that the courtroom represented a form of justice which merited neither their respect nor their fear.

Three important prosecution witnesses were declared hostile by the Crown after telling the court they told "lies and rubbish" to get out of the police station or that police had threatened to charge them if they did not cooperate.

The worsening atmosphere at the time of Mr May's death in an area noted neither for black militancy nor poor race relations has been attributed to several factors: the *movement of the National Front's* headquarters to Croydon early in the year; the polarizing effects of the *April riots* in Brixton, where many local blacks had friends and contacts; the official neglect of the poorer northern part of the borough on the complacent assumption that race relations were not a problem in Croydon.

According to Mr Chaudhury Anwar, the borough's senior community relations officer, that complacency has now gone.

He concedes that the events of last June have been associated with a more radical attitude among young blacks, but says the racial tension has now eased.

Mr Roy Amlot, the prosecuting counsel, said in a somewhat despairing concluding speech that the case was not about politics or race relations and was "not a Scarman inquiry". But it was in part about all those things, because that was how many people chose to see it.

Leading article, page 7

Bicycle boy guilty of killing girl

Mark Thomas, aged 17, a schoolboy, was convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of the manslaughter of Michelle Shields, aged six. Thomas, of Bacton, Lismore Circus, Kentish Town, north London, was cleared by a jury of her murder. Sentence was postponed for a fortnight.

The court was told that Thomas, a neighbour of the girl, treasured his second-hand racing cycle. He struck the girl in the neck with a screwdriver, killing her, when she playfully interfered with the cycle.

Protests over M40 threat to butterfly habitats

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The Government agency formed to safeguard wildlife has joined the chorus of opposition to part of the route chosen by ministers for the next stage of the M40 motorway. The 46-mile section, which is meant to take heavy traffic out of several Midlands country towns, also passes through the edges of two of the finest butterfly habitats in Britain.

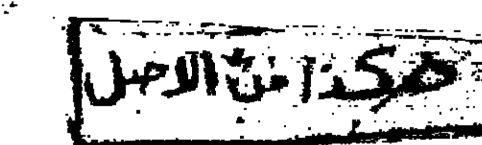
The Department of Transport thought it had satisfied the demands of naturalists when it mapped a route for the £200m project which avoids Drunkard's Corner and Hall Coppice and keeps well clear of Holly Wood. But the four-lane motorway will cut off parts of the insect sanctuaries of Polecat End and Holton Wood.

Those are all the names of some of the remnants of the ancient forest of Bernwood which survive about five miles east of Oxford. The Nature Conservancy Council, a quango which is often criticized by naturalists for its diffident defence of wildlife, has lodged a formal objection to the department's proposed M40 route, which is meant to join the present M40 to the motorway network round Birmingham.

With a score of 39 out of 60 British varieties, Bernwood contains more types of butterfly than any other British reserve. It also shelters 250 types of moth

Last year the council persuaded the Forestry Commission, which owns most of the forest, not to cover it with commercial conifers. It will have open spaces with uncommercial varieties of tree where such rarities as the Purple Emperor and White-Letter Hairstreak butterflies can flutter in the sun round their favourite food.

If the motorway is to avoid the reserve area it will have to include a wide detour through farmland.



Science report

Exergy: 24 hours that made a universe

Britain's teachers are split over the cane

By Richard Garner and Bert Lodge of "The Times Educational Supplement"

Britain's two principal teaching unions took different roads yesterday on the future of the cane in schools. The National Union of Teachers, the biggest union, decided to campaign for the abolition of corporal punishment, while the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers insisted on the right to retain the cane.

The 235,000-member NUT voted by a decisive majority for abolition at its annual conference in Scarborough, becoming the first teachers' union in the country to take such a stand.

Mr John Gunner, from Winchester, proposing the motion, said: "We do feel it is time for this union to give a lead in this very important matter and say without equivocation that corporal punishment in our schools is an anachronism.

"It is ineffective and it is admitting our failure. Its abolition is long overdue."

He added that it was wrong to argue that corporal punishment was a deterrent, saying: "Any glance at a punishment book will reveal the same names occurring again and again and again."

About a third of the 104 local education authorities in England and Wales have abolished or are committed to the abolition of corporal punishment. Seven weeks ago the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg ruled that parents should have the right to insist that their children are not subjected to corporal punishment.

Previously the union's policy had been to leave the decision to individual teachers. The NUT motion declares opposition to corporal punishment in all schools and welcomes the fact that the Labour and Liberal parties and the TUC are on record as opposing it.

Mr Thomas Scott, education secretary of the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment, welcomes the decision and added: "The Government should now legislate for abolition".

The motion was opposed at the conference by the union's executive, for whom Mr Peter Griffin, the junior vice-president, said: "To pass this motion as it stands is to leave a very substantial number of your colleagues without the proper support of the union to obtain for them the kind of resources and more acceptable sanctions they need.

"You are abdicating your real responsibilities if you go just for the principle and not for the resources."

Afterwards Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT, said: "There have got to be acceptable forms of sanctions worked out. Quite a substantial number of local authorities are already phasing it out."

The union also decided to take a tougher line over refusing to cover for colleagues who are absent from school, with delegates backing a motion declaring that teachers on the normal establishment of schools no longer be required to cover for them.

Mr Michael Morris, from Birmingham, proposing the motion, said: "there is no one here who believes that when cover takes place education also takes place. It is baby-sitting of the worst order."

About forty delegates walked out of the conderence hall as the traditional vote of thanks to Mr Alfred Budd, the union's president, was being moved. That was in protest over his handling of the conference, especially his decision to rule out of order a debate on armaments.

☐ Delegates at the annual conference of Britain's second largest teacher union, the NAS / UWT, at Blackpool yesterday rejected a call to abandon the teachers' traditional role of *in-loco-parentis*. But at the same time they insisted that that included the right to use corporal punishment (Bert Lodge writes).

They also called on local authorities to bring prosecutions for assaults on teachers instead of leaving it to the teachers' initiative.

Moving the motion, Mr David Parnham, Derbyshire, said *in loco parentis* was an outmoded obligation conceived in the nineteenth century, when conditions were different. In its place should be established the true role of the teacher, that of an instructor of young minds. The motion was opposed by Mr David Battye, who said that in the case of a child with an unhappy background he was proud to be *in loco parentis*.

Proposing that the use of corporal punishment should remain at the discretion of the teacher and not be arbitrarily withdrawn, as some local authorities have already done, Mr Gordon Jamieson, Nottingham, said it was not a moral issue but a pragmatic one.

Local authorities were banning corporal punishment, not to benefit pupils and schools but for doctrinaire reasons.

On hearing the news from Scarborough that the NUT had agreed to campaign against corporal punishment, several delegates said they expected an increase in membership in their areas as a result of defections from the NUT.

A standing ovation was given to Miss Suzanne Puttock, the north London teacher who recently brought a successful prosecution for assault against a parent despite reported remarks from a magistrate that she should expect to be assaulted five or six times in her career. Miss Puttock urged all teachers who suffered assault, to follow her example.

Delegates agreed to strengthen a motion calling on local authorities to give "support and counselling" to assaulted teachers by calling on them to prosecute assailants as well.

Models are chosen for Thames site

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

The first of a series of large office blocks on the "green giant" site, near the Thames in London, could be complete in about 18 months, Mr Ronald Lyon, chairman of the Arunbridge Group, said yesterday. He expected little initial difficulty in letting commercial space in the £200m development, which will be one of the largest in Britain in the 1980s.

"While offices are fairly slow to let in London at the present time, there seems to be a premium on size. Those people are holding back until the special development order is granted. I think that once the scheme is defined we would prelet at least one of those blocks."

Mr Lyon, whose company is acting as project manager for the competition to design the buildings, will choose a winner for early submission to the Government.

He spoke yesterday amid eight models submitted by anonymous semi-finalists chosen from more than 100 sketches submitted by architects. Despite the rigidity said by Mr Lyon to have been imposed on competitors in the design brief, the eight produced a collection of quite distinct permutations of brick and sheet glass.

The maximum height allowed was 300ft or about half of that of the notorious "green giant" block planned for part of the site until it was vetoed by the Government in 1980. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has supported the competition, and will use the device of a special development order to speed a suitable design to completion.

An inquiry into a scheme of the size of that covered by the competition would take months and prolong further the 20-year wait for a decision about the fate of the empty site of almost 12 acres on the south bank of the Thames near Vauzhall Bridge and the New Covent Garden market.

☐ Lady Wynne-Jones, chairman of the Friends of Chelsea, which led the opposition to the original green giant proposals, said last night that the final entries in the competition were almost without exception devoid of artistic merit adding: "They are diabolical" (Frances Gibs writes).

One design looked like a ski jump, another like a block of barracks, she said. "We are going to see mr Heseltine about it."

Tony Weaver



Three of the competing models for the Vauxhall Bridge site, on the south bank of the Thames, that went on show yesterday.

Government 'should set up health watchdog'

By Jeannette Mitchell

The Government should establish a standing advisory committee to examine the impact of all its policies on health, according to Mr Ian Kennedy, Reith lecturer and director of the Centre of Law, Medicine and Ethics.

He told a conference on New Directions for Health yesterday: "Ninety per cent of health is a product of social, political and economic forces which have nothing to do with medicine".

Arguing that the main factors influencing how ill people are and how they die are the result of "anti-health forces", including poverty, unemployment and lack of job satisfaction. Mr Kennedy wants government departments to assess the health impact of their policies.

Health in Britain is deteriorating as a result of falling living standards, growing unemployment and cuts in recreational facilities, Mr Kennedy claims.

The conference, held at the Royal College of Physicians, marks a growing recognition the medical world that the primary determinant of good health is how people live rather than their medical system.

Speakers, who included Lord Winstanley, Liberal Party spokesman on Health, and Sir John Butterfield, chairman of The Medicines Commission and one of the Government's foremost health advisers, called for a public health revolution to combat the preventable killers, particularly heart disease, cancer and accidents.

Parliament's unfinished business: 4

New clauses to the Finance Bill

By Frances Williams

This year's Finance Bill, with 139 clauses and 17 schedules, is one of the longest and most complicated ever to be brought before the House of Commons. It will certainly be even longer by the time it emerges from its parliamentary mauling.

The Government is already committed to adding several more clauses which could not be drafted in time for the Bill's publication. Scrutiny in committee of the minutiae of the Bill, which begins next week, will undoubtedly produce more.

Even so, this enormous Bill, like all finance Bills, covers only one aspect of the Budget, the detailed tax proposals.

Because much of it is devoted to technical amendments to tax legislation, political interest is likely to centre on a few key clauses.

One of them implements the Chancellor's decision to raise income tax allowances and bands by 14 per cent, 2 per cent more than required to compensate for inflation last year but not enough to compensate for his failure to raise them a year ago.

The Opposition wants to increase the allowances by 28 per cent, twice Sir Geoffrey Howe's figure, to restore their real value to 1980 levels and to reintroduce the 25 per cent reduced-rate band of tax for the first slice of income, abolished by Sir Geoffrey two years ago.

That would help to redress what it sees as the unfairness of the Government's Budget proposals, which will leave all but those earning two and one half to three times the average worse off in the coming year.

Labour is also angry that the Chancellor has refused to make good the 5 per cent real cut in unemployment benefit which was imposed in 1980 before bringing the benefit into tax, and will try to get the shortfall reinstated.

It points at the contrast beween that and the proposals to index capital taxes in line with inflation.

The principle, though not the detailed drafting, has been welcomed in the City and elsewhere because it stops people paying tax on paper profits from selling assets.

But in practice, because the first few thousand pounds of capital gains are exempt from tax anyway, the measure is likely to benefit only those with portfolios worth more than £100,000.

The proposals, coupled with the decision to sell indexed gilts to the public, raise wider questions too about the extension of indexation in the tax and financial systems and its implications, which will concern MPs of all parties.

Other controversial aspects of the Bill include the Government's decision to cut the employers' national insuance surcharge from 3½ to 2½ per cent; changes in the tax regime for oil companies operating in the North Sea; and, if the Government comes up with proposals in time, any new tax on the clearing banks.

The Bill begins its marathon through committee next Thursday. By tradition the Government side is led by the number two at the Treasury, Mr Leon Brittan, and the Labour Opposition by his shadow, Mr Robert Sheldon, a former junior Treasury minister.

The committee, normally meeting twice a week, has to complete its deliberations by early July, so that the remaining stages can be completed in time for the Royal Assent to be given by August 5.

After completing the report stage and third reading in the Commons, the Bill will go formally to the House of Lords, providing an occasion for a general debate on the economy, since peers are not allowed to amend money Bills. Despite the cramped timetable, the Finance Bill is never guillotined.

Concluded

More fail to claim benefits

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

A sharp fall in the numbers of sick and disabled people claiming the benefits they are legally entitled to has forced the Government to take new action to encourage them to claim. The latest figures show that more than a third are failing to claim supplementary benefits, entailing an average loss of £15.40 a week.

The Government is to issue a leaflet about eligibility for supplementary benefits to all people claiming sickness benefit once they have been off work sick for two months.

It will also go to people coming back on to Department of Health and Social Security books after receiving statutory sick pay for eight weeks from their employers under the new scheme starting next April.

The new figures, which relate to 1979, show a 10 per cent drop over two years in the number of sick and disabled people claiming supplementary benefit. Their failure to claim has saved the payment of an estimated £90m to the 110,000 entitled to the benefit.

The Government is cooperating with campaigns being mounted by a number of large councils, including Birmingham, Sheffield and Leeds, to encourage the take-up of benefits.

But the figures show that claims have fallen by most groups, with the total saving in unclaimed benefits reaching £355m.

After sick and disabled people, pensioners experienced the largest decline in numbers claiming. By 1979, 7 per cent fewer were claiming supplementary benefit than two years earlier.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Boundary changes affect Benn

The Boundary Commission for England today announces its revised proposals for parliamentary constituencies in Avon, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire (David Hewson writes). The boundaries contain changes resulting from representations made to local inquiries, but the overall number of MPs to be elected is not altered. One of those likely to be affected by the changes is Mr Wedgwood Benn, whose Bristol, South, seat is due to be replaced when the city's five seats are reorganized. Mr Benn had a majority of fewer than 2,000 at the last election.

The revised recommendations, with those for other parts of the country, are expected to come before Parliament early next year.

Family of five die in fire

Mrs Sheila Jackson, aged 22, her two daughters and two sons, all under five, died in a blaze at their home in Bishop Auckland, co Durham, early yesterday after being trapped upstairs in the semi-detached council house.

Mrs Jackson's husband Mr Michael Jackson, aged 28, was later seriously ill with burns in Bishop Auckland General Hospital, unaware that his family was dead.

Magistrate fell to death

Mr Robert Hines, a stipendiary magistrate, died of head injuries after falling off a ladder, Hornsey Coroner's Court in London was told yesterday. Mr Hines, aged 51, who sat at Highbury Corner Magistrates' Court, was mending the roof at his home at Mount Park Crescent, Ealing, on March 26.

His son, Mr Jonathan Hines, said that shortly after he had seen his father putting up ladders he heard a crash. He later discovered that the ladder was cracked, rungs were bent and guttering used as an anchor point had come away. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

£1.5m rail contract

London Transport has gained a £1,500,000 contract to help New York to modernize its underground railway system. LT's consultancy service, London Transport International, will spend up to thirty months on the scheme.

Pigs to be killed

More than 2,000 pigs are to be slaughtered on farms in the Midlands because of swine vesicular disease contracted from animals on a farm near by, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday.

Welsh test tube baby

Wales's first test tube baby is due to be born in Neath, near Swansea, in December, to Mrs Maureen Jones, aged 34, of Park Street, Tonna, who has been married for six years.

Alderson seeks policing inquiry

From Craig Seton, Exeter

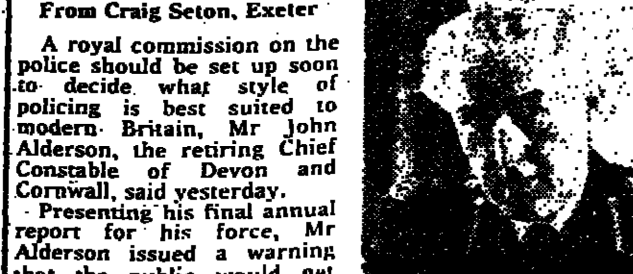
A royal commission on the police should be set up soon to decide what style of policing is best suited to modern Britain, Mr John Alderson, the retiring Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, said yesterday.

Presenting his final annual report for his force, Mr Alderson issued a warning that the public would get "uneasy" if the robust debate on law and order and differing methods of policing were to become a permanent conflict at a "high, tense and controversial level".

Speaking at a press conference in Exeter, he made clear his disappointment that lord Scarman's recommendations on community policing, contained in his report on inner city riots, had not resulted in a "quantum leap" in new ideas for policing. Without saying so directly, he clearly laid the blame at the door of the politicians.

He also made plain that when he retires he will continue his controversial advocacy of community policing and respond more freely to his critics, including hard-line chief constables who consider his methods soft, and the Home Secretary, who Mr Alderson believes has been under pressure to adopt harder-line police tactice.

Mr Alderson hinted that he belives a royal commission would have to be set up in the lifetime of the next government to channel the debate on policing styles into a proper structure over two or three years.





Mr Alderson yesterday: "Debate at watershed"

He said it was unfortunate that the statutory consultations between police and the community which was recommended by Lord Scarman had not been accepted, and that only voluntary consultation was being suggested. The debate on policing was at a watershed, he said.

Last year was the year "when the spectre of disorder and the emergence of a quasi-military type of policing reveled itself in this country", he said. "I have tried to slow down the course towards this alien type of plicing.

"We pride ourselves in this country on being able to maintain law and order without armed police. It is a thing we should rejoice in and try to maintain, because it would be so easy to drift into the idea that you can control this country by greater power and repression, and that would be most unfortunate."

Mr Alderson said that if riots recurred in British cities, the police, sitting targets in the last riots, would adopt a more positive role, go forward and arrest the ringleaders to bring them before courts. He reiterated his opposition to the use of CS gas and plastic bullets.

After he retires the chief constable will spend three months lecturing at Corpus Christi Cambridge. He said yesterday that he had no immediate plans to seek a political career as a parliamentary candidate for the Liberals or the Social Democratic Party. He wanted to continue to be a leading figure in the debate on policing methods and if a political opening presented itself to enable him to do that he would consider it.

Mr Alderson, who will be succeeded as chief constable by his deputy, Mr David East, also disclosed that a British university is hoping to establish a department of police studies.

FALKLANDS CRISIS

Honest broker Haig heads for grilling

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 15

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, left Washington today for Buenos Aires in a further attempt to defuse what he has described as an "exceptionally difficult and exceptionally dangerous" situation.

Mr Haig was taking with him some "new ideas" for resolving the Falkland Islands crises which he had developed as a result of his talks in London on Tuesday and during a telephone call with Buenos Aires yesterday.

Officials have remained silent about the content of the revised settlement plan because of the extremely delicate stage the negotiations have reached. However, it is believed Mr Haig's ideas involve a revised formula for sharing sovereignty or administration over the islands.

It is possible that Mr Haig may fly on to London if his talks in Buenos Aires make progress.

It was expected that Mr Haig would be questioned by the Argentines about Washington reports of American militaty cooperation with Britain, although officials insisted that these reports had not damaged Mr Haig's role as an "honest broker".

Mr Haig broached this issue in a statement last night when he said that the United States was maintaining its military links with Britain but had rejected requests that "would go beyond the scope of customary patterns of cooperation based on existing bilateral agreements."

The sharing of intelligence information between Britain and the United States and the use by Britain of American facilities on Ascension Island are covered by agreements in force.

Mr Haig's statement was designed not only to reassure the Argentines that he was still trying to adopt a middle position but also to deflect growing criticism in the United States over the Administration's failure to take a more pro-British stance.

The opinion of newspaper leading aticles and columnists continues to be solidly on Britain's side and opposed to Argentina's use of force to take over the islands. Mr Anthony Lewis, a liberal commentator, writing in *The New Times* today takes Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the American representative at the United Nations, to task for attending a dinner party in her honour at the Argentine Embassy the night after the Argentine attack and for her subsequent denial that the Argentine action constituted armed aggression.

in *The Washington Post* Mr George Will, a right-wing columnist, was also critical of the Administration's even-handed approach. "By not siding more forthrightly with Britain," he wrote today, "The United States may be jeopardizing the objective it thinks it is serving: Latin American stability. By seeming obsessively concerned about the survival of existing regimes, the United States extends to those regimes a licence for adventurism and settling old scores."

The mood on Capitol Hill is also becoming more critical of the American Approach. Senator Daniel Moynihan has already called on the United States to stand by its Nato ally and five liberal members of the House of Representatives — three Democrats and two Republicans — have sent a letter to President Reagan saying that if efforts to achieve a settlement failed the United States should take Britain's side diplomatically.

A leading article in *The New York Times* today criticizes the shuttle diplomacy which Mr Haig has been carrying out during the past week. Under the headline: "Stay home, Al Haig," the newspaper says he ought to send emissaries to London and Buenos Aires and remain in Washington to concentrate on more weighty matters such as nuclear arms control, the Middle East and Central America.



Occupation: Heavily armed Argentine troops crowd civilians off the Port Stanley streets.

IN SUMMARY

Reagan 'a hypocrit'

The Soviet news agency Tass accused Washington of collusion with Britain over the Falklands and said it had no right to play a mediating role between London and Buenos Aires (Reuter reports from Moscow).

Information leaked to the United States media, Tass said, showed that Washington was giving Britain intelligence details about Argentina's forces and providing communications facilities to link London with the British fleet in the Atlantic.

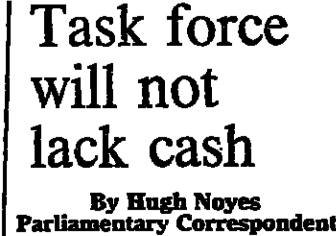
It accused President Reagan of hypocrisy for refusing to confirm the aid to London at a press conference and said Washington's aim was to help Britain return to the islands and at the same time establish a United States presence there as well.

☐ Britain's displeasure at Russian tactics over the Falklands was made clear to Mr Viktor Popov, the Soviet Ambassador, when he called at the Foreign Office yesterday (Denis Taylor writes).

It was pointed out that the Soviet Union had not vetoed the Security Council resolution demanding withdrawal of Argentine troops and was therefore bound by it.

☐ The Foreign Office denied as "quite untrue" a report in the *Daily Mail* that Mr Hurd was heading a special Cabinet committee set up to examine sporting links with Argentina. But the denial implied that sporting links were being examined.

☐ Stockholm: Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Social Democrat leader, who is head of the United Nations disarmament commission said the Falklands was "meaningless" (our Correspondent writes). "The conflict can be solved by granting the Argentinians sovereignty over the islands but by allowing them to be leased by the British", he told a public meeting. "That this conflict has now been continued to the very brink of war is an example of the lack of wisdom with which the world is being run".



Task force will not lack cash

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

There is to be no cash ceiling on the cost of the Falklands operation, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary of the Treasury, said yesterday.

Speaking at Trinity College, Oxford, Mr Brittan said that the needs of the task force would come first and he gave an assurance that the costs would be met in ways that were consistent with the Government's economic strategy.

Mr Brittan pointed out, however, that not all of the cost of the operation would be in addtion to normal expenditure. Extra costs would arise only where the cost of the operation proved greater than that of the tasks to which the force would otherwise have been assigned.

At this stage the extra cost represented a very small proportion of the defence budget of more than £14,000m

Mr Brittan said it was nonsense to suggest that Britain's ability to respond to the crisis had been weakened by the so-called cuts in defence spending. Indeed, added the Chief Secretary, far from cutting defence spending, the Government had increased it in real terms by about 11 per cent.

This year £500m extra was being spent in real terms on conventional naval forces than in the year before the Conservatives took office. Even when expenditure on modernizing the strategic deterrent was at its peak, more would be spent on the conventional Navy than in 1978-79.

South American analysis

Memories of war dictate reaction

By Peter Strafford

The pattern of support for Argentina in the Falkands dispute reflects rivalries and alignments in South America. Most, if not all, Latin American countries back Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the islands, but their reactions to the invasion have varied widely.

Two of the countries which have been most clear in their support for Argentina, Peru and Bolivia, have sound historical reasons for their attitude. Both of them were defeated by Chile in the War of the Pacific just over 100 years ago, and since Chile is often at odds with Argentina, they have tended to side with Buenos Aires.

Memories of the war still rankle, particularly in Bolivia, which lost a strip of territory giving it access to the cultivated friendship with La Paz, which means that Chile has to take account of a second front in the north in any conflict with Argentina.

In recent years there have been close relations between the armed forces of Argentina and Peru, which have continued despite the election of a civilian Government in Lima. In Bolivia, Argentines were widely thought to be behind the coup that prevented a return of domocracy in 1980.

There were strong denials yesterday from Lima, however, of reports that Peruvian aircraft had been flown to Comodoro Rivadavia, a port in southern Argentina, as a gesture of active support. The reports, which appeared in Buenos Aires, spoke of six Mirage fighters.

Peruvian diplomats said that Peru wanted a peaceful settlement to the dispute. They pointed out that Peru had proposed a 72-hour truce in order to bring about a settlement, and the sending of an international peace force.

For Chile, the Falkands dispute has a very different complexion, because of its quarrel with Argentina over three islands in the Beagle Channel. Seen from Santiango, the seizure of the Falkands looks very like the Argentina threat to go to war over the Beagle Channel in 1978, which was only averted by the intervention of the Pope.

Chilean newspapers have pointed out that Argentina had refused to accept the findings of internatiobal mediation in the Beagle affair. They have also been critical of the Argentines for introducing foreign influences into the region through their links with the Soviet Union.

The largest and most influential country in the region is Brazil, which has long been a rival of Argentina and has traditionally taken Chile's side. Like other Latin American countries, Brazil has supported Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the Falklands, but it has avoided either supporting or criticizing the invasion.

President Figueredo has made great efforts in recent years to overcome differences with Argentina, where he lived for a time in his youth. He has appealed to both Britain and Argentina to aviod conflict, and offered Brazilian help in bringing about a settlement.

☐ *Brasilia:* Brazil would be reluctant to extend port facilities to British Naval units in the South Atlantic if asked, according to Brazilian diplomatic sources (AFP reports).

Mr William Harding, the British Ambassador, discussed the possibility with Senhor Baena Soares, the permanent head of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, but said he had not presented any official request. He added that he had merely been sounding out the Brazilians on the matter.

On Tuesday, Mr Harding handed Senhor Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, the Brazilian Foreign Minister, a message from Mrs Margaret Thatcher, asking Brazil to use its influence to persuade Argentina to evacuate the Falkland Islands. He also saw the head of Brazil's intelligence service, General Medeiros.

Mr Harding denied reports that Britain envisaved suspending its technical assistance to the Brazilian Navy if Brazil supported Argentina in the Falklands crisis.

Backing for Thatcher drops a bit

By Sara Bonner

Support for Mrs Thatcher's handling of the Falkland Islands crisis is still strong but waning slightly, according to the latest opinion poll on the British public's reaction to the affair.

A poll published today by Market and Opinion Research International for *The Economist* shows that 60 per cent of the public are satisfied with the way the Government is handling the situation in the Falklands. This compares with 30 per cent who say they are dissatisfied.

However, a poll conducted at the beginning of last week, only four days after the Argentine invasion took place, revealed that 70 per cent agreed that the Royal Navy should be ordered to sink Argentine ships if necessary to regain the Falkland Islands.

A further poll, conducted by Opinion Research Centre for London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* last weekend showed general support for the Government's approach but also a repugnance at the loss of life it might entail. When asked if they supported diplomatic means backed by force, 61 per cent said they strongly supported it, and 18 per cent said their support was "quite strong".

However, in todays's poll, which was conducted on Wednesday, more than 80 per cent of the public said they supported such actions taken to date as sending the naval task force to the Falklands, imposing the 200 mile naval blockade, banning Argentine imports and freezing Argentine assets in British banks.

About 67 per cent felt that British troops should be allowed to land in the Falkland Islands while 52 per cent believed that British ships should sink Argentine ships found in Falkland waters.

The so-called "Hong kong solution", that the Falkland Islands should become Argentine territory but leased back to Britain for administration, found relatively little support. Only 24 per cent were in favour, while 63 per cent opposed this option.

Simple soldier holds key to war or peace

From Christopher Thomas
Buenos Aires, April 15

Lieutenant-General Keopoldo Fortunato Galtieri is a chain smoker, scotch drinker and self-professed man of action, with little instinct for political sudtleties. It is he, more than anybody, who now holds the key to peace or war between Britain and Argentina.

If the whispers are to be believed, Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of States, finds it difficult to deal with the Argentine President, a man of black and white views and unpredictable decisiveness. The problem is partly President Galtieri's apparent inability to appreciate the muances of diplomacy and political barganing, and partly the undermining of his authority by intense jealousies and infighting among the generals and admirals who run the country.

The belief among people close to the argentine political scene is that Senor Nicanor Costa Médez, the civilian Foreign Minister, who has a distinguished diplomatic background from earlier elected governments, was excluded from close involvement in the Falklands invasion plans. Judging from the exceptionally moderate tones he has adopted throughout the crisis, compared with the shrill jingoism of Genral Galtieri, it is fair assumption that he would have counselled against the attack.

His non-involvement possibly accounts for the astonishing miscalculation by the junta of the likely world reaction. It may also account for the embarrassing failure to anticipate the lack of definitive support from the Soviet Union at the United Nations Security Council.

General Galtieri, aged 55, an imposing man of more than six feet, is a soldier's soldier, a man who jokes, swears and drinks with the best. He is enormously popular with his juniors. He courts popularity, and wants to be seen as a politician as well as a soldier.

On February 12, for example, he invited 1,500 government officials to the small town of Victoria in La Pampa province, in central Argentina, to celebrate its centenary. He also invited 10,000 townsfolk, who happily consumed 11,000 quarts of wine, 2,500 pounds of beef, 2,500 sausages, 6,600 rounds of bread and several hundred boxes of tomatoes. It was a populist gesture, even though he made them pay for it, and he ensured that the affair was dutifully reported by the Argentine press.

General Galtieri, a former combat engineer, has retained the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Army, at least until his scheduled retirement from the military at the end of the year. His presidential term ends in March, 1984.

He was born on July 15, 1926 into a working-class family at Caseros, outside Buenos Aires. After studying civil engineering at the Argentine Military Academy, he moved steadily through the ranks, and in the mid-1970s reached what he calls the peak of is career — his close involvement in the vicious, relentless and successful anti-terrorist campaign.

To this day somewhere between 6,000 and 15,000 people are missing, and no amount of international pressure has succeeded in uncovering their whereabouts. On the few occasions when the general has talked of the disappearances, it has been to defend vigorously the military's actions.

He took his oath of office three days before last Christmas, after dismissing his predecessor and former friend, General Roberto Viola, whose indecisiveness and poor health steadily eroded his authority.

Journalists who claim to have inside knowledge are convinced that the General intends to move soon towards re-establishing democracy, but his public comments are not encouraging. "The ballot boxes are safely under lock and key", he said recently.

Perhaps the most succinct description of the man who invaded the Falklands came from his own lips when addressing the crowds at Victoria, "I am a military man", he said. "I like simple words and clear ideas".

Galtieri: Man of action.

OVERSEAS

Killers of Sadat executed at dawn

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, April 15

Five self-proclaimed Muslim fundamentalists convicted of assassinating President Sadat of Egypt were executed at dawn today hours after their plea for mercy had been rejected by President Mubarak.

The two assassins "who had been in" the Army were executed by firing squad and the others, civilians, were hanged at a remote military base outside Cairo, military and legal sources said. This brought to 13 the number or Muslim fundamentalists executed for violent crime in the past eight years.

News or the executions was carried briefly on Cairo radio, then dropped from subsequent broadcasts. The evening newspaper did the same, an indication that the authorities may be sensitive to possible public reaction, Muslim fundamentalism being widespread in all the Egyptian universities.

Military sources said Lieutenant Khaled Shawki el-Islambouly, who admitted leading the attack on Sadat in October last year and Hussein Abbas Muhammead, a reservist, were shot at 0530 local time. "Slambouly was calm and controlled, asked to pray and was allowed to do so, but Abbas was nervous and wanted to get it over and done with." Blindfolded, they were shot by a 10-man squad.

The civilians were reported to have been calm — one asked to pray another asked that his debts be paid, and the third requested to write to his family.

Military officals said the families of all five were informed of the rejection of the mercy appeals and were allowed to spend Wednesday with the men. The families were not informed of the time of the executions.

Officials said Mr Mubarak also turned down appeals from 17 other defendants found guilty in the assassination. They have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from five years to life.

Violent crimes committed by self-proclaimed Muslin fanatics have been committed in Egypt since 1974, when a group led an attack on a military academy. Three people were hanged for that offence. In 1977 a group kidnapped and shot dead a former cabinet minister in charge of religious affairs. Five were hanged.

Sociologists who have followed the increase of Muslim fundamentalists say the Islamic revival aims at replacing the secular regime with a religious one because they opose what they perceive to be Western permissiveness permeating the tradition-bound society here.

They have rapidly made converts, mainly because of the growing disparty between rich and poor. Now the veil and long flowing robes are more popular among women on the streets of Cairo, and the number of bearded men — a sign of Muslim puritanical tendencies — has also increased.

Stoessel is optimistic over Sinai

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, April 15

There are growing indications that Israel is planning to press ahead with its final evacuation of Sinai on April 25 as scheduled, despite last minute difficulties and pressure from political opponents.

The clearest pointer came today from Mr Walter Stoessel, the United States Deputy Secretary of State, who said after the first meeting of his delicate new diplomatic mission to secure a smooth handover that he was "optimistic for a good outcome".

Meanwhile, Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister, was holding talks in Cairo with President Mubarak and Mr Kamel Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Foreign Minister. Later, senior Egyptian sources also expressed optimism that the withdrawal would take place as initially agreed at Camp David.

Tonight Mr Sharon arrived back again in Jerusalem and went straight to Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, to report on the outcome of his negotiations.

Mr Stoessel was speaking to reporters after more than two hours of talks with Mr Begin, and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister.

Over the past 24 hours, officials close to Mr Begin have been at pains to play down suggestions that Israel might be planning to delay its handover of the remaining third of occupied Sinai.

Leading article, page 7

Correction

Due to a dropped line in yesterday's report on the protest strike in Muslim nations it was wrongly stated that there was a Marxist Government in Lebanon. The sentence should have read: "Lebanese Christians were joined in their desire to keep working by the South Yemenis, who were ordered by their Marxist Government to work double shifts rather than close their offices, a unique and novel form of protest in the Arab world."

Indian opposition in disarray

Charan Singh cuts 'retirement' short

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, April 15

The bulk of the fragmented and quarrelling opposition parties in India find themselves a laughing stock today, a gift to Mrs Indira Gandhi in view of the important elections in four states next month.

At a time when the Opposition has been talking of forming a united front to challenge the Government, it is more splintered and confused than ever, in the wake of the much-publicized "retirement" of Mr Charan Singh, who was caretaker Premier for a month at the end of the period of Janata Party rule in 1977-79.

Mr Singh, who is 79 heads the Lok Dal, or Masses Party, which draws much of its support from farmers. No one took him seriously when he retired recently, and talked of going to the banks of the Ganges to meditate, pausing only to sack three of the party's leading figures. As expected, he returned to politics today, at the urging of his supporters. He has provoked the fourth party split in two years, and the press is calling his actions a charade.

Mrs Gandhi has always felt nervous about the opposition. She says the only thing its leaders agree on is their dislike of her. But unity is a long way off, and opposition is at a low ebb.

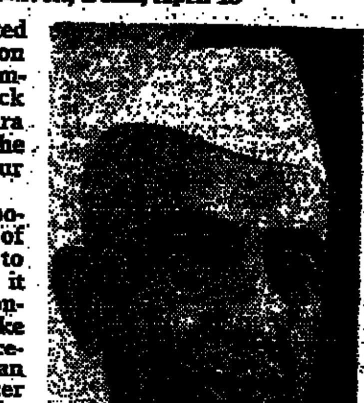
The most recent attempt at a merger between Lik Dal, Janata and one of the Congress splinters, Congress-S, failed because each of the three leaders wanted to head the alliance and would not give way.

Most of the non-communist opposition parties have no economic or social programme, no philosophy, and are led by old men with small followings who are not much more than names in newspapers. Mr Nihal Singh, editor of the *Indian Express*, wrote today that the parties are "unprincipled conglomerations of self-seeking men and women".

The only non-communist parties with any following are Lok Dal and the BJP, a middle class, right-of-centre, Hindu nationalist party, formed two years ago out of the Jana Sangh, a component of the Janata rule which split, and paved the way to Mrs Gandhi's triumphant return in 1980.

Although the opposition groups will be seeking alliances for electoral gain in the coming elections, there is no doubt that they have been damaged, to Mrs Gandhi's advantage. Her Indira Congress Party is now strengthened for the fight in Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

The communists, essentially regional parties, are expected to retain their hold on West Bengal, but the outcome of the election in Kerala, where Communists ruled until receently, is not so certain.



Charan Singh: Comeback

The Charan Singh episode demonstrates the importance of personalities and the weakness of parties in Indian politics. That is why the Maneka Gandhi affair, a family quarrel, assumes some importance. At first sight it looked like the *sass-bahu* (mother-in-law and daughter-in-law) conflict familiar to Indian filmgoers, in a society where most wives go to live with their in-laws in the extended family.

Mrs Gandhi ordered Maneka, who is 25, out of the prime ministerial home after she had addressed a meeting of supporters of her late husband, Mr Sanjar Gandhi, people who now feel neglected. Having enjoyed the limelight and political excitement at her husband's side, Maneka also felt neglected, sitting and brooding in her mother-in-law's home.

Maneka's speech compounded the crime that she and her mother had already committed, in selling the monthly magazine they owned to supporters of the BJP party.

The dust is settling after the unseemly squabble and expulsion, but Maneka is now seen as something of a wild card. She cannot damage Mrs Gandhi, who is well entrenched, and she has no political standing or philosophy, and hardly any experience.

What she has is a famous name, and the ability to evoke her husband's memory. She could conceivably be a focus for discontent, and a future danger to the political career of her brother-in-law, Rajiv, who is now his mother's ombudsman and assistant. It is widely assumed that he is being prepared for greater responsibilities.

Nicaragua ready to start peace talks with US

From Mohsin Ali, Washington, April 15

Nicaragua has told the United States that they should begin negotiations in Mexico to ease the bitter tensions between them arising mainly from the civil war in El Salvador.

Señor Francisco Fiallos Navarro, the Nicaraguan Ambassador, yesterday called on Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for inter-American affairs, and said that his country was ready to initiate serious talks on the "basis of just and reasonable proposals".

According to an embassy spokeswoman, Señor Fiallos Navarro said that Nicaragua had no objection to discussing the United States eight-point proposals put to it on April 8. The date, site and level of representation at the negotiations had yet to be decided.

The Ambassador also said that Nicaragua supported fully Mexico's proposals of February which advocated the conclusion of non-aggression pacts between the United States and Nicaragua and between Nicaragua and its neighbours. The Mexican proposals were "the most appropriate framework to advance formal and serious negotiations without conditions".

The United States proposals include a call for an end to Nicaraguan support for left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador and insurgencies in neighbouring countries.

In return, the United States is ready to make a political declaration opposing any efforts by Nicaraguan exiles to invade Nicaragua and promising to take the necessary action against them under American law. It also proposes a joint pledge not to interfere in each others affairs.

The Reagan Administration claims that Nicaragua is receiving large-scale Cuban and Soviet military aid. The United States proposals call for a limit on the size of military forces in the region, including a ban on the import of heavy offensive weapons and a reduction in the number of foreign military advisers to reasonable levels in Nicaragua.

Under the package plan, the United States would resume aid to Nicaragua.

PILOT TELLS OF COUP PLOT HIJACK

Victoria, Seychelles, April 15. — An Air India pilot told how gunmen forced him under threat of death to fly his Boeing 727 from Seychelles airport while a battle raged around the terminal.

Captain Unmesh Saxena was testifying before a session hearing evidence for the trial in South Africa of 43 mercenaries alleged to have hijacked his aircraft after a coup attempt.

Captain Saxena said that on landing he was confronted by 10 to 15 gunmen, one of whom said: "Well, gentlemen, you have landed in the middle of a revolution. If you cooperate with us you will not be harmed. If you try to double-cross us we'll shoot you one by one and blow up the aircraft."

The pilot said he had to fly to Durban, with the gunmen on board.—Reuter.

Ugandans hold Briton on border

By Our Foreign Staff

The British High Commission in Kampala has been in touch with the Ugandan authorities to try to establish the whereabouts of Mr Kevin Thomson, a Briton aged 27, detained by police on the Kenyan border.

Diplomatic sources in Kampala said that he was arrested on April 6, and that no charges had been brought against him.

According to a Reuter report from Nairobi, friends of Mr Thomson said that he had already crossed into Kenya when a Ugandan police officer asked him to go back to complete a technical formality. He was then seen being taken away towards the Ugandan town of Tororo.

In Nairobi, Ugandan army units were reported to have killed more than 20 people in an anti-guerrilla operation outside Kampala yesterday.

in disarray

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Delhi, April 15



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Ugandans hold Briton on border

Warsaw faculty protests over ousting of rector

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, April 15

University lecturers in Warsaw are refusing to cooperate with the authorities in their search for three deputy heads of the university, the largest and most influential in Poland. As a result, the administration of the university has nearly ground to a standstill at a time when several thousand students are resuming their studies after the Easter break.

The protest, a senior explained, was aimed against the ousting of Professor Henryk Samsonowicz as Rector of the university. Dr Samsonowicz, a liberal reformer popular with the students, was recently dismissed from his post — or had his resignation "accepted", in the official formulation. He was replaced by a little-known academic, Professor Kazimierz Albin Dobrowolski, who is more sympathetic at the martial law authorities. academics and reform-oriented intellevtuals have viewed this as a toughening of policy in the Polish leadership and a move that might augur a purge of university staff.

But the main fear seems to be about the effect on the students. Today, hundreds of students interrupted their studies for a quarter of an hour to sign a petition protesting against the dismissal of Dr Samsonowicz, a medieval historian. Fourteen deans — heads of department — have also signed the petition and scores of lecturers have been signing a similar document, all directed at the Minister of higher Education.

Dr Samsonowicz has not been answering his telephone, and it is assumed that he has gone on holiday. He's dismissal has made lecturing staff nervous about academic freedom. Dr Samsonowicz was democratically elected by staff and students, in line with a liberal Bill on higher education. The martial law authorities have promised to pass the Bill, but the dismissal — as today's petition made it clear — has undermined this hope.

A senior academic said today: "There are about 25 staff and students interned at the moment. In the past we could try to help them, both to live and to continue their studies. Those interned staff who have been released have been given their jobs back thanks to Dr Samsonowicz's support. Will this continue now?"

The broader effect of the dismissal has been to give the impression that the so-called hard-liners — tougher ideologically oriented party leaders — have the upper hand in the continuing struggle. A plenary session of the Communist Party's Central Committee — only the second since martial law was imposed — is due to be held next Thursday and this should chart more clearly what elements are dominating party discussion.

The last Politburo meeting — and the official press today — emphasised the notion of a new "front of national understanding". This is the idea of broadening the base of party support in the country by incorporating other satellite parties — the Democratic Party and the United Peasants' Party — more explicitly into government. "Social forces" including trades unions wourld form a second tier, a non-political one that would discuss with the ruling Communist and other parties vital issues. This is the view pushed for some time by those around General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, but finds only limited support among the tougher ideologists who distrust the concept of even a tentative form of power sharing.

Their experience is that the Communist Party lost most of its support at a time when the now suspended Solidarity trade union was actively discussing an albeit far, far more radical form of "power sharing".

Queen cuts Canada's last colonial shackle

From Michael Hamlyn
Ottawa, April 15

The Queen arrives in Ottawa today to proclaim, as Queen of Canada the new Constitution, and too witness the striking off of the final colonial shackle linking the country to Britain.

Ottawa is decked with flags — the Union Jack, the Maple Leaf and the flag of the 10 provinces, and the weather has seemed to celebrate too, with the first warm days of the year finally melting ancient heaps of snow.

Not everyone is happy about the patriation of the constitution of course. The Government of the province of Quebec, whose veto was overridden when the courts ruled that the consent of the provinces was not legally necessary, is boycotting the ceremonies here. It has ordered Lieutenant Governor Jean-Pierre Cote not to attend either.

A protest march around Montreal is planned on Saturday to coincide with the proclaimation on Parliament Hill. The Indians of British Columbia and Manitoba are not too pleased either, claiming that the new Constitution does not do enough for native rights, and does not protect the old Indian treaties.

Indian leaders have beeen warned that they will be regarded as untrue to the native cause if they participate in the celebrations.

Nine of the 10 provinces finally signed an accord of the charter for rights to be included in the Constitution. Only Quebec held out.

Quebec's legal challenge goes on, and the Constitution faces a severe test when, as is bound to happen shortly, Quebec's education laws are examined against the charter. The charter protects minority rights but Quebec insists, for example, that all children are taught in French schools unless one parent was taught in a Quebec English school.

Photograph, page 8

Coverage of the Gulf War

Iran attacks Western media 'lies'

By Richard Owen

The Western press has been accused by a leading Iranian official of "consistently lying" both about the situation in Iran and about its conduct of the war with Iraq.

Hojatoleslam Abdel Majid Moadikhah, the Minister of Islamic Guidance (Information) told a press conference in London yesterday that the "Zionist-imperialist" news media were guilty of "the most significant oppression and cruelty ever committed against mankind".

Hojatoleslam Moadikhah (*hojatoleslam* is a rank just below that of *ayatollah*) is a rising star in the Iranian hierarchy, and speaks with a calm, almost elegant precision which contrasts oddly with the hyperbole of the Islamic regime's rhetoric. Quoting at length from the Prophet Muhammad, Hohatoleslam Moadikhah said that the conduct of the Western media proved the Prophet's dictum that "it is on the lie that big criminals mainly depend".

Asked how Western correspondents could be expected to tell the truth if they were not allowed into Iran, the minister replied that reporters had "repeatedly told lies" even when they were invited into the country. This was not only a matter of untruths, but also of "clever reordering" and selection of news "in the interests of Zionism and imperialism", as coverage of the Gulf War had shown.

Ased about reports of a Soviet incursion into northern Iran earlier this month, the minister acknowledged that Soviet and Afghan troops had crossed the border, but said it had been an "error" for which the Soviet Union had "immediately apologized".

He did not refer to reports from Islamabad at the time of the incident that 50 Afghan *mujahidin* ("holy" warriors) pursued by the Soviet troops had been killed on Iranian soil, a matter of some embarrassment to Tehran in view of its support for the Afghan insurgents.

On the question of Iran's strategy after its recent victories against Iraq, Hojatoleslam Moadikhah said that it was not the business of the Iranian leadership to bring down the Baghdad regime of President Saddam Husain. The Iraqi leader no longer had "the capability to win the war", but it was up to the Iraqi people to decide his fate: "If they want to keep him they will, if not, not".

On internal matters, the minister refused to comment on a report in *The Times* that 8,000 opponents of the regime, mainly belonging to the left-wing Mujahedin-e-Khalq, had been executed in the past three months, beyond saying that the Mujahedin were responsible for "hideous crimes worse than terrorism anywhere else".

He could not confirm that 15,000 political prisoners were being released, but said that those who were able to "lead healthy lives" in Islamic society would be set free.

Hojatoleslam Moadikhah: Rising star in Iran.

Bonn pledges arms support to US

From Patricia Clough, April 15

West Germany today formally committed itself to provide strong logistical support to enable the United States roughly to double its military strength here at short notice in times of crisis.

The huge and expensive "wartime host nation support agreement" signed in Bonn today, is designed to step up Nato's powers of deterrence in conventional armaments, a field in which the Soviet Union has the lead.

The agreement signed by Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Arthur Burns, the American Ambassador, is seen by the West Germans as an important demonstration of the counrty's commitment to the alliance which has recently been much questioned in th United States.

It is also seen as countering accusations in the United States that the European allies, in particular West Germany, are not prepared to pull their weight in the defence of Europe. The cost, to be divided equally, will mean a burden to Bonn of DM550m (£12.3m) at a time when the Government is being forced to make sizeable budget cuts.

Herr Genscher seized the occasion to declare that the agreement "documents our particular attachment to our American partners . . . It is also the expression of our continuing willingness to take part in a balanced burden and work sharing in the alliance."

West Germany promises to provide logistical support to enable the United States to ship out six armoured, mechanized and infantry divisions within 10 days to reinforce the four already stationed here.

It will train and equip 93,000 reserves to provide transport, supplies and protection to the troops while here and to man airfields.

The West Germans are also expected to provide and guard huge arms depots, stores and other installations so that all the necessary equipment is waiting from the troops when they arrive. They will set up special "equipment units" composed of 1,200 military men and 600 civilians to look after it.

"With this agreement we are strengthening the deterrent in Central Europe in what is a decisive area for the alliance", Herr Genscher said.

"This is in the German interest as well as in that of the alliance. With it we are marking a contribution to maintaining the balance of power."

Peace team fails to end Gulf war

Kuwait, April 15. — A four-member non-aligned peace team has failed in its latest attempt to end the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq, a member of the group said today.

The committee, which returned to Kuwait last night after visiting Tehran and Baghdad, had been unable to reconcile conflicting demands by the warring nations, the man who declined to be named, added.

Iran had reaffirmed its demand that Iraqi troops should withdraw from its territory before it would hold talks. President Saddam Hussein of Iraq suggested on Sunday in Parliament that he might be willing to pull out his forces if Iran guaranteed not to encroach on Iraqi territory or water.

The committee, set up in February last year, comprises the foreign ministers of Cuba, India and Zambia and Mr Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the political department of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Peace efforts by the Islamic Conference Organization are expected to resume soon. Mr Habib Chatti, its secretary-general, said last week that an Islamic peace mission planned to visit Baghdad and Tehran towards the end of this month. — Reuter.

□ Tehran: Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, said here today that young women who had lost their husbands as "martyrs" in the Iraqi war should remarry in accordance with "divine tradition."

Zambians halt trains to Zaire

Lusaka, April 15. — Zambia has suspended rail traffic to and from Zaire after the stoning of a Zambian-operated train on the Zaire side of the border, the official Zambia news agency said today.

It quoted a spokesman for Zambia's state-run railways as saying Zambian train crews were frightened to cross into Zaire because of the incident yesterday. But the spokesman aded that the suspension of trafic would be lifted when the situation returned to normal.

It is the latest in a series of border incidents and follows frontier clashes between security forces at the end of February in which three Zaireans and one Zambian were reported killed.

On Monday, Zambia demanded the unconditional and immediate release of about 20 Zambians detained in Zaire. Zaire said they would be freed as soon as administrative problems were sorted out.

□ Cape Town: Mr P W Botha, the South African Prime Minister, said in Parliament today he would probably have a meeting in the near future with President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

Mr Kaunda told a South African newspaper last month that he wanted to meet Mr Botha to discuss potentially explosive developments in Southern Africa. — Reuter.

Cameroon leader's visit

Close tie sought with francophone Africa

From Godfrey Morrison, Abidjan

President Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon is expected to pay a four-day official visit to Britain, begining next Tuesday. The invitation is the latest of several indications that both Whitehall and British business are anxious to step up links with French-speaking West Africa.

Until recently British exporters and investors tended to write off the whole of French-speaking sub-Saharan Africa, first because they believed it was an impregnable French domaine, and second because its markets were individually small.

It is true that the area includes such nations as Chad, Upper Volta, Mali and the Central African Republic,, which are among the poorest in the world.

But it also contains Gabon, whose oil revenues have given it the highest per caput gross national product in black Africa, as well as the Ivory Coast and Cameroon, which have only recently become oil producers, but which oil industry sources say will become major producers in the years to come.

Both President Felix Houphquet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast and President Ahidjo have ruled their countries virtually unchallenged since independence in 1960, and all three countries record of political stability and the state of their public finances contrast sharply with those of some of Britain's traditional markets in West Africa, such as Ghana and Sierra Leone.

"The trouble with the British business community is that it has become so obsessed with Nigeria that it has forgotten about these countries", was how one British diplomat working in a French-speaking country put it.

Interest in the Nigerian market stems not only from traditional commercial ties and the country's huge oil wealth, but from the fact that its 90 million people represent a single market which is bigger than that of all the 15 former French colonies in black Africa, whose total population is about 70 million.

The statistics speak for themselves. In 1980 British exports to its principal French-speaking West African markets (Togo, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Cameroon, Senegal, Gabon, Niger and Congo) amounted in all to £137m. By contrast exports to Nigerial reached £1,204m.

But there is a growing feeling, not only among British officials whose job is to promote British commercial interests in this alien terrain, but in the business community, that the British share of the area's imports — which in most of these countries amounts to between 2 and 3 per cent of total imports — is unnecessarily low.

It certainly contrasts dismally with the 9 per cent share of the Nigerian market which French salesmen have obtained.

In the past British businessmen have been put off by the apparent stranglehold on the local economies exercised by French commercial and political influence.

In many of these countries the French embassy carries great weight with the local authorities (people in Libreville, Gabon, still refer ironically to the French ambassador as "the governor-general"), but often French influence is much more deeply imbedded because of the large numbers of French officials in the local bureaucracy — the so-called *assistants techniques*.

European and American officials are as much irked by this as the British, and one European diplomat in Libreville remarked gloomily: "If you go into any of the ministries you will find an *assistant technique* behind every pot plant".

But all is not gloom. Plessy have won important airport equipment contracts in gabon and Cameroon and is a front-runner to build the delayed new international airport in Abidjan. Taylor Woodrow and George Wimpey have joined the international consortium which may well win the contract for the next stage of the massive trans-Gabon railway project.

Two of the very few British companies with the highly visible stake in this area are Guinness, with breweries in Ivory Coast and Cameroon, and Barclays International.

Japan gives rice

Tokyo. — Japan has agreed to provide rice worth about 447m yen (just over £1m) to drought-stricken Central African Republic the Japanese Foreign Ministry has announced.

FIVE THAI DETAINEES GO MISSING

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, April 15

At least five politicial prisoners in Thai jails have disappeared in the past year, according to a report to the United Nations by the Lawyers Association of Thailand.

The parents of Mr Sinprasert Pokaew, the former deputy Secretary-General of the National Students Centre of Thailand, say their son was arrested in July and has not been seen since.

Police say two of the five escaped from detention soon after their arrest. The lawyers' report claims that 12 other prisoners including one woman are being held without trial on charges related to national security and communist activities.

The only legal basis for imprisonment without trial is the Anti-Communist Act which permits persons accused of communist activities (outlawed in Thailand) to be detained up to 210 days with the approval of the mational police chief and up to 480 days with the permission of a military or civil court.

Two hundred Thais jailed as threats to national security by the two previous governments may be released soon under an expected royal amenesty.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

80 face 'class' war charges

Istanbul. — The trial of 80 leading members of the now defunct Turkish Labour Party started here with the military prosecutor demanding prison terms ranging between 15 and 36 years. The defendants are accused of "striving to establish the dictotorship of one social class over the others" as well as carrying out communist and separatist propaganda.

The leader of the party, Mrs Behice Boran, aged 72, and Mr Nihat Sargin, the party Secretary-General, both left the country after the Army coup of September, 1980 and were stripped of Turkish citizenship when they failed to comply with instructions to return. Mrs Boran was later sentenced in her absence to eight years and nine months in prison on similar charges.

Meanwhile, another 730 alleged members of the underground Dev-Yol (Revolutionary Path) organization went on trial in the northern Turkish town of Amasya. The prosecution has demanded death sentences for 57 of the defendants indicted earlier oncharges of terrorist activities including murder.

Young Franco leaves Army

Madrid.—General Franco's grandson, lieutenant José Christóbal Martinez-Bordiu, aged 24, is leaving the Army, according to reports published here (Harry Debelius writes).

He told the national popular weekly magazine *Interviu*: "I'm leaving the Army as a matter of principle I prefer to be honest with myself, rather than hang on, just because I am who I am, acting out a role in a move that I've lost interest in. I was getting bitter."

Kim at 70 still holds the reins



Pyongyang. — President Kim Il Sung (above), who has led North Korea since it was established in 1948, celebrated his seventieth birthday with a speech in which he gave no hint that he wished to step down.

The Government said that many foreign delegations had arrived in the city to pay tribute to the president, including President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, President Samora Machel of Mozambique and President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe.

Brezhnev riddle

Moscow. — The Mystery over the health of President Brezhnev deepened yesterday when Professor Yevgeny Chazov, his chief physician, failed to turn up at a scheduled press conference. Western correspondents were told two days ago that Professor Chazov would answer questions but were told yesterday he was unable to attend the conference because of a broken leg sustained three weeks ago.

Mr Brezhnev, aged 75, who apparently under went hospital treatment in the past three weeks, was said to be on holiday.

Reagan proposes tax relief for private education

From Bailey Morris
Washington, April 15

President Reagan today proposed a controversial and costly programme of tuition tax credits for families whose children attend private and religious schools.

In a move designed to shore up his faltering support among middle class Americans, Mr Reagan said he would soon submit legislation to Congress granting tax relief of up to $500 (£260) a student to families with annual incomes of up to $50,000. A smaller credit is proposed for families with incomes of up to $75,000.

Mr Reagan unveiled the programme in a speech delivered in Chicago to the National Catholic Education Association which represents more than 10,000 Roman Catholic schools across the country. Mr Reagan said it was aimed at "overtaxed parents" who bore the double burden of paying for state schools while choosing to send their children to private schools.

He defended the move by saying: "Alternatives to public education tend to strengthen public education. We must ensure that these classrooms continue to provide the finest education possible."

The high cost of the programme, estimated at $500m in the first year and rising to $1,500m at the end of three years, is bound to raise objections. There is likely to be severe criticism in Congress and among organizations representing poorer Americans who have been particularly hard hit by the Reagan budget cuts.

Of equal concern, however, are the delicate social and constitutional questions raised by tuition tax credits, which are regarded by critics as racially motivated and in violation of the required separation of church and state.

Since white children comprise the bulk of pupils attending private and parochial schools, black organizations have vehemently opposed tuition tax credits in the past, regarding them as a means of furthering segregation and reducing equality of public education.

Nevertheless Mr Reagan has apparently decided to gamble on his belief that his traditional, middle class supporters will be heartened by the tuition credits.

In recent weeks he has strongly defended his Administration's record on education, particularly his programme on higher education, which has been sharply criticized, even by some of the President's closest supporters.

In the second of his series of live radio broadcasts, Mr Reagan said that contrary to published reports his Administration was not cutting the amount of loans available to needy college students, only the growth in the cost of administering those loans.

The fear among middle class Americans is that they will not be able to afford to send their children to college, which can cost up to $10,000 a year in tuition.

Mr Reagan contends that under his proposals four and a half million students will receive guaranteed loans in 1983, a 22 per cent increase over this year.

Melvyn Westlake on the maritime battle in New York that could have longer lasting consequences than the Falklands crisis

Will Reagan take the law of the sea into his own hands?

Events in the Falklands have focused attention on the potential for conflict where mineral wealth is found on or under the seabed. They have also served as a reminder that Britain is still a major maritime nation which will gain from clear new laws governing the sea routes.

Yet while the South Atlantic occupies world attention, desperate diplomacy is needed in New York to prevent the Law of the Sea Conference from being scuppered. The threat to the conference has come just when years of painstaking negotiations by 150 countries had appeared to be moving towards a successful conlusion.

If the conference is a failure there is a danger that we will soon witness the biggest carve-up of the earth's treasures since the scramble by European powers for black Africa in the second half of the nineteeth century. Oceans might then effectively be staked out by a handful of rich and technologically advanced nations, with the aim of securing a claim to the vast storehouse of strategic metals that lie on the deep sea bed.

The prospect of such a carve-up has been brought very much closer since President Reagan took office in the United States and ordered a review of the draft convention so laboriously negotiated at the Law of the Sea Conference during the preceding seven years.

The result of this review is a substantial book of amendments, most of which are rejected by the Third World nations. There is now a very real danger that if the United States presses these amendments, the whole delicately balanced package of interlocking agreements, which form the backbone of the draft convention, will start falling apart.

If the convention is ever concluded it will represent the largest body of international law ever established, covering not only seabed mining, but marine navigation, sovereign rights over continental shelves, exclusive economic zones up to 200 miles from shore, and sea pollution control.

The danger that the whole convention might come unravelled does not appear to be worrying Washington. However, American officials are concerned that the United States should not appear to be standing out against the rest of the world. If the Americans alone are responsible for the collapse of the Law of the Sea Conference, Moscow would score a propaganda coup by putting them in the dock of world opinion as rapacious spoilers.

That is why the Reagan Administration has been lobbying so hard to get Britain, West Germany and some other countries to join it, and why some voices in Britain can be heard urging the Government to throw in its lot with the Americans.

Mr James Malone, the United States chief negotiator, came to London just before the start of the latest session of the Law of the Sea Conference, which is due to run until April 30, and argued his country's case before an audience at Chatham House.

Even those western countries that sympathize with the American position have been embarrassed by the naked self-interest that the Reagan Administration is displaying and by its heavy-handed tactics.

Britain is in a bind. Like the United States it is worried that the West may have given away too much to the Third World nations over seabed mining, and that burdensome international restrictions will be imposed on its mining activities. North Sea oil installations also make it important to get agreement over continental shelves.

Yet a Law of the Sea Convention without the United States would probably be a blunt instrument. One alternative is for the key industrial nations — the so-called "like-minded states" — to formulate a mini-treaty of their own.

These countries are the United States, Britain, West Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Japan. Several of them have now passed domestic legislation to regulate and license exploration and commercial recovery of hard minerals from the ocean floor by their own citizens. Almost unnoticed, Britain has passed a Deep Sea Mining (Temporary Provisions) Act, supposedly to provide a legal framework for our mining companies until the Law of the Sea Convention comes into effect in the late 1980s.

These national pieces of legislation all have reciprocal arrangements recognizing one another's claims, and have all the appearance of co-ordination. So, if the Law of the Sea Conference collapses, the way would be clear for a Klondyke-style rush.

Six consortia have already been formed. Most are led by American companies, although one is chiefly French, and another mostly Japanese. Shell, BP, Rio Tinto Zinc and Consolidated Gold Fields are among the British companies that have joined international consortia.

Their quest is for the potato-sized nodules, lying half-buried in the mud of the seabed, containing 30 or 40 per cent manganese and very much smaller quantities of copper, nickel and cobalt.

The major industrial countries are all dependent to a greater or lesser degree on imports of those minerals which are found in seabed nodules. The US imports more than 95 per cent of its supplies of cobalt and manganese, which are used in the production of high-grade steel, frequently with military application. As the nodules are often found at a depth of three miles, only a few countries have the necessary technology to mine them, employing, for example, deep sea Hoovers — a technique enlikened to sucking up peanuts through a piece of macaroni from the top of the Empire State Building.


INGRAM PINN

The situation over seabed mining has all the characteristics of a classic struggle between the world's rich and poor nations. Some poor countries have made no secret of their belief that it represents a major test of their crusade for a "new international economic order". Their view that the seabed beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction is man's "common heritage" has now become largely accepted as a legal concept.

But this leaves open the question of how seabed minerals can be exploited in a way that is fair to all, when only a few countries are in a position to undertake mining operations. The formula used is that proposed by Dr Henry Kissinger when he was US Secretary of State: what became known as the "parallel system".

Under the draft convention an International Seabed Authority would be set up to control all seabed mining. This authority would conduct its own mining operations through an organization called the "Enterprise", on behalf of all nations. It would also license and regulate private ventures.

Private companies would put up to the Authority an area of the seabed they regarded as having commercial possibilities. Half of this would then be worked by the private contractor and half by the Enterprise. Apart from the Enterprise, which would be based in Jamaica, the Authority would have several other specialized organs, including an International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea, based in Hamburg. To prevent the Enterprise being at a permanent technological disadvantage, the private mining companies could also be obliged to share their technology with it, receiving compensation for doing so.

The general policies of the Authority would be fixed by an assembly of all nations, but real power would reside in a 36-member executive Council.

American opposition has essentially focused on six points, which have been harshly summarized by its critics as representing a demand that the United States should have "virtually unrestricted access to deep seabed minerals resources for itself and a right of veto over the activity and development of the proposed International Seabed Authority" (letter to *The Times*, March 17).

No country has been guaranteed a place on the Authority's 36-member executive council, but it is inconceivable that the United States would not have a seat. Its vote, however, would count for no more than, say, that of Malawi. Mr Malone denies that he is seeking veto powers for the United States. But there is no doubt that what he does want is to ensure there is a sufficiently large group of nations sympathetic to America who would block any unacceptable action by the Authority.

The fear is that many of these questions are becoming clouded by ideology. Mr Elliot Richardson, President Carter's chief negotiator in this field and a former Ambassador to Britain, has publicly suggested that some Reagan officials are less interested in getting a good treaty than in scuttling any treaty. Even the mining companies have belatedly realized that they stand to gain more from the establishment of a legal and stable regime for the seabed — with its many faults — than from a free-for-all with the consequent lack of investment security.

If the rich countries were to adopt a mini-treaty of their own, and unilaterally begin mining what does not belong to them, the effect on international relations could be devastating. The military inferiority of the Third World states rules out any resort to gunboats, but anarchy would reign over virtually every aspect of maritime activity.

Old age: can you sleep it off?

Hit is not yet a wonder drug, but if experiments under way in three American laboratories fulfil their promise, it will come close. As of now, it is known that when Hit is injected into rabbits it lowers the temparature to which their bodies can be cooled before their heartbeats becomes dangerously uneven, and so may have implications for heart surgery in humans, which involves cooling the body.

Injected into monkeys, Hit has been found to remove their appetite completely, which may mean it could be a treatment for obesity. And, if injected in cancerous animals, tumour growth is slowed, an obvious benefit. The only problem is, nobody yet knows what Hit is, chemically speaking.

One approach being pursued at the University of California, at Davis, is an investigation of the process that controls the hibernating animal's body temperature. During the winter an animal like a squirrel apparently has a thermostat of sorts within its body, which keeps its temperature only two or three degrees above that of the environment.

When winter comes to an end, the animal warms up with the environment but, as Dr Barbara Horwitz at Davis has found, the front end or snout of the animal warms up first and for a time may be as much as 30 degrees warmer than its rectal area.

The word itself is an acronym for Hibernation Induction Trigger, a substance, probably a protein, found in the blood of hibernating animals, like squirrels or bats, but not in the blood of non-hibernators such as rabbits or man. It is not found in hibernating animals during the summer months, though if these creatures are injected with their own "winter blood" at that time, they drop off to sleep.

It is thought that the substance, whatever it is, is manufactured in the brain since fluids from the brains of hibernating squirrels, when injected into rats' bloodstreams, have been found to reduce body temperature and to depress oxygen consumption.

A second approach, by Dr Eric Pengelley, at the University of California in Riverside, is focusing on the timer that starts the hibernation process. Pengelley has shown that the length of the autumn days and temperature play a part, but that hibernating animals also have some sort of built-in clock which means that even if temperature and daylight are kept constant the animal still goes into hibernation about every 300 days.

And the latest research, from yet another university in California, Loma Linda, and just published, has discovered that most hibernating animals do not in fact sleep all the time throughout winter, but wake up every few weeks. During their short waking periods the blood of these animals does not show the presence of Hit and so the possibility now exists that, instead of being produced continuously, Hit is produced in spurts at intervals.

It is a tantalizing problem. Hibernating animals can withstand radiation doses that would be lethal to other animals — another finding that could be important in the context of cancer cures. And there are reports that it may even slow down the aging process. Which may explain why so much of the research is going on in California.

Peter Watson

A few home truths from the South Atlantic

David Watt

A lull now falls over the Falklands crisis as the diplomatic and military pieces are brought into their final positions. Let us use it to follow Dr Johnson's excellent, and at present very salutary advice "Clear your mind of cant." One piece of nonsense ("this is all the fault of those pinkos in the Foreign Office") has been faithfully disposed of by Lord Home in these columns but three others are still much in evidence.

(1) **"Britain can never give in to dictators".** A good stirring slogan, much used in the past ten days but almost entirely irrelevant to the present situation. It implies: (a) that General Galtieri is an old-style fascist dictator like Hitler; (b) that no democracy would have perpetrated the seizure of the Falklands and (c) that if a democracy had been the culprit it would not have been so imperative to resist. All these assumptions are false.

We insist of course on replaying our finest hour again and again. Sir Anthony Eden did it in 1956 when he used the same slogan in relation to Nasser. But Galtieri is not a Hitler, a Brezhnev or even, for that matter, a Nasser. He is the temporary and titular head of a consortium of ruthless, narrow minded and rather stupid military men who, however appalling their particular violations of human rights, and however gross their mismanagement of a potentially magnificent country, represent what has been an extremely familiar local phenomenon for a century and a half and has, at ordinary times, very little international importance or capacity for mischief.

Protecting our interest is one thing, but launching a moral crusade against juntas in South America is quite another: One might as well try to extirpate sex from Bangkok.

At the same time it is wildly sentimental to suppose that on the Falklands issue the junta does not have "democratic" support. Mr Peregrine Worsthorne remarked the other day that the British people want gunboats; unfortunately the Argentine people want the islands. The Church, the trade unions, the intelligentsia, the media are all utterly convinced, that the *Malvinas* belong rightly to the Argentine and had there been a non-military and supposedly democratic government in power in Buenos Aires at present the same coup might equally well have taken place without the slightest restraint from the democratic process.

If it had, then negotiations would have been quite as difficult (indeed more so, since the good offices of the United States would have been less effective) and military confrontation quite as likely.

(2) **"It is not worth going to war to save Mrs Thatcher's face".** If it were only Mrs Thatcher's face we were trying to save, this Left-wing cry might be true. But it is not. Naturally this Government has a burning interest in its own survival and had it not taken forceful action it might well have fallen. But it is not simply Mrs Thatcher's credibility but the country's that is at issue.

"Credibility" is of course a hard concept to pin down and is an unfashionable one these days in any case. But the fact remains that the protection of British interests in a very uncertain and unstable world depends considerably on exploiting our past reputation for (a) relative honesty; (b) skill and resolution in protecting our interests, and (c) possession of real, though limited military power.

The consideration we have received since the crisis began from the Americans (whatever their public stance), from our fellow members of the European Community, and from the majority of Third World countries in the United Nations depends in part upon the post-Afghanistan determination of everyone to avoid giving moral encouragement to military adventurism.

But it also turns on these countries' perception of Britain as an important and on the whole beneficent European and north Atlantic power which can still make a significant contribution to peace in her own region and to a lesser extent in the wider world through her alliances and residual influence.

Little Englanders may wish to turn their backs on this role but there is a high price to be paid for doing so since the whole gamut of British economic interests overseas are intimately connected with it. In order to pursue these interests effectively, whether in Europe or outside it, it is not enough merely to have a strong competitive economy, one must also have persuasive power at the level of governments.

It is true that we have often in the past overstretched our economy in order to maintain power and influence, which are supposed in their turn to help protect and support our economy. For this reason it would have been absurd to maintain a large blue water fleet and amphibious commando capacity simply for the purpose of protecting the Falklands. But it is important not to go to the opposite extreme of supposing that it does not matter to the standard of living of ordinary people if Britain is no longer taken seriously.

But what does "credibility" consist of? The trouble is that the answer depends so heavily on the context. If the Chinese army had marched into Hongkong 10 days ago the British Government would no doubt have registered its outrage in various ways, but no armada would now be setting off for the Far East.

Similarly, if we had insisted a year ago on negotiating a lease-back agreement for the Falklands with the Argentine we should have been accused by the islanders of selling them out, but we should have lost little or nothing in international terms because the islanders' position would have been protected for a generation and British commitments and capabilities would have been brought into a much clearer and more credible balance.

The trouble in the present case is that we, a supposedly major power, had been outwitted by a tinpot regime on an issue where we have publicly stated our ability to prevail. Lord Carrington's talk of a "national humiliation" was perhaps overdramatic, but Mrs Thatcher is correct in saying that Britain's reputation is at stake.

What needs to be done to restore it? Clearly the formidable display of strength that the Navy has been able to put on is in itself restorative, since almost any negotiated settlement immediately involving a physical Argentine withdrawal can now be said to have been induced by the appearance of this fleet — whether or not any shots are fired.

This is a huge plus since it means that it is not necessary from the point of view of credibility that there should be a complete restoration of the *status quo ante*. On the other hand, in view of everything that has been said, it is a minimum "credibility" requirement that the islanders should be free from Argentine administration for a considerable period, and that we should (and this is the real cost of the incident) maintain a military capacity in the South Atlantic sufficient to deter its imposition in future.

It goes without saying that this is not the end of the political argument in Britain since many of Mrs Thatcher's supporters take a more stringent view of national honour than the international community does. In my judgment, however, these are the least terms that are necessary if Britain is to come out of the incident with her international reputation more or less intact.

(3) **"The British people are united in support of the Government".** True so far as it goes — but ministers must be aware that it does not go very far. National pride has been hurt and naturally calls for vengeance. It is irresistibly moving to see a large fleet sail out of Portsmouth once more. Nevertheless, Walpole's observation at the beginning of the War of Jenkins' Ear ("Now they are ringing their bells, soon they will be wringing their hands") is still apt.

Public opinion wants satisfaction at all costs and if it turns out that the cost is in fact high in men, in money or perhaps even in terms of world opinion, its patience may run out fast. The idea of a "long haul" blockade of the islands lasting through an Antarctic winter is neither politically attractive nor very plausible. The only consolation is that the patience of the Argentine public may well be even shorter than the British.

How the councils poached a gamekeeper

On the principle of employing a gamekeeper to assist in poaching, one of the major local government associations is considering a Treasury civil servant as its next secretary. The Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents the big city and big spending councils, has drawn up a short list for the job. It includes Peter Kitcatt, an under-secretary in the public services division of the Treasury.

The AMA has found before that employing able civil servants is a good ploy. The secretary who has just left (to become chief executive of Birmingham) was Tom Caulcott, an ex-Department of Environment man who had also seen the inside of HM Treasury.

Other candidates are an insider, the current number two, Lionel Plowman; the number two at the counties' association, Len Roberts; and John Harris the county secretary in South Yorkshire.

Officials say that Plowman must be reckoned favourite because employing him would be cheaper for the association and its current chairman is an extremely mean Yorkshireman who though a socialist takes a Philip Snowden-like view on spending.

Working lunch?

These are, we know, hard times. Yet a Diners Club lunch on Wednesday, April 28 — a working day for all but three million or so of us — priced at a rather rich £38 per person has attracted 1,000 applicants. It is to be held at Michel Roux's Waterside Inn at Bray, which usually seats 70. The number of places has been squeezed up to 98, 400 people have been told they cannot come by letter, and more turned down on the phone, which is still ringing with fresh applications four or five times a day. Is the nation trying to eat its way out of trouble?

No movement

It is with the most profound regret that I record the tragic consequences that official neglect has brought upon the church of St Stephen, Rosslyn Hill, in Hampstead, the masterpiece of Samuel Saunders Teulon. Teulon, one of the most vigorous and individualistic of Victorian architects called it "my great church."

It became redundant five years ago. There were nearly 200 inquiries from people who thought they might have an alternative use for it. They were put off by the suggestion that the building of the Royal Free Hospital nearby had caused structural movement in the church which would cost £100,000 or more to put right.

The Advisory Board for Redundant Churches suggested that the church should be vested in the Redundant Churches Fund. The Church Commissioners, aware that the fund is short of money, repeatedly refused. The windows of the church were boarded up. The boards simply enabled thieves to work inside without detection, and eight stained glass windows have now been stolen. They include the glass which was Teulon's own memorial.

Saddest of all, the GLC has now carried out its own survey, and found that the story of structural movement, to which the London diocesan surveyors had given some credence, was wrong. Glass telltales mounted over cracks in the walls showed on examination that there had been insignificant movement for a decade. The church remains at risk, not from subsidence but inertia.

THE TIMES DIARY



What is a mature male lion worth? New Scientist has the answer from an economist working with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, who has worked out that every maned Kenyan lion will earn his country $515,000 over the next decade.

The calculation goes that on average tourists spend about six minutes in Amboseli National Park watching lions, and that therefore the four lions in residence contribute 2.5 per cent of the park's income.

It is a very grand sum, but sadly not the whole truth. London Zoo tell me lions have been withdrawn from most dealers' lists because they are a drug on the market. If you did want one, you should be able to get him for about £300.

Belt and braces

Prompted by David Owen, nautical James Callaghan has been regaling Labour MPs with the story of how his cabinet decided to deal with the Argentine threat to the Falklands in 1977. There was a difference of opinion between sending a visible deterrent in the form of a surface fleet, or an invisible one — submarines. Callaghan said: "We will compromise. We will send both" — and immediately got unanimous support.

Open secret

It has not always taken such a show of force to scare off the Argies. Sir Miles Clifford, our Governor of the Falklands in the days of Peron 30 years ago, recalls that a party from the exploration ship John Biscoe put ashore at Hope Bay in Graham Land only to be forced back on board at gunpoint by a group of belligerent Argentines.

Clifford sent a message recalling a British frigate, and ensured that it went open, not scrambled in code The Argentines monitored the message and within 24 hours were gone.

Delicately divided

To return to the tricky subject of Liebfraumilch, the much maligned German wine of obligatorily neutral character, I have to report that the changes in the wine law are going to split the sweet personality of the Blue Nun, whose purity I do not impugn.

In Britain for the next eight months at least Blue Nun will be Liebfraumilch Rheinhessen. But in parts of the United States wine sold under the same brand name will be Liebfraumilch Rheinpfalz, coming from a different Rhineland region.

From Mainz, Riquet Hess of Sichel tells me it has not yet been finally decided which wine goes where in the United States, but that world wide sales are such that quality could not be maintained with wine from a single region. The Blue Nun, the company say, should taste the same whichever region it comes from — which means that PHS will not be drinking it anyway.

Frozen assets

Glynn Christian, descendant of Bounty mutineer and Pitcairn Islander, Fletcher Christian, prepared a special meal yesterday to celebrate 100 years of frozen food from New Zealand.

The sailing ship Dunedin landed 5,000 refrigerated sheep carcases and diverse dairy products at East India Docks on May 24, 1882. The butter sold at the equivalent of 11½p a pound. *The Times* christened the lamb "the frozen flock." Since then they have invented Kiwi fruit too.

The Pope's visit will work one minor miracle, bringing a BBC local radio to life a year early. Radio York will have just one day's existence on May 31 when mass is celebrated on Knavesmire racecourse. Staff from surrounding stations will be drafted for the occasion, but then silence will return until the following spring.

Dynamic darts

Ronald Duncan, the poet and playwright, has malignant cancer of the lung, which is inoperable because he also suffers from bronchitis and emphysema. As a result, he tells me, he is having cobalt ray treatment which produces 1,300,000 volts. "This charge makes me feel quite dynamic," he says wryly, "and explains why I am writing most of the day".



"If it's Friday, General, it must be Buenos Aires..."

He has been commissioned to write a fourth volume of autobiography. It is to be called *A Paper Dart*. Duncan says that is the reason why those he calls "life steers", the bovine aristocracy, can be seen "hurrying to Hyde Park carrying pick and shovel to shelter from my atomic pen".

He adds: "Nor will I forget the ladies, especially those who threaten to dance for joy on my grave. For their benefit I have arranged to be buried at sea".

Doing nicely

"That will do nicely, sir" as the National Trust said to American Express. The credit card group has offered sponsorship worth about £100,000 which will enable the trust to stage its first national arts festival this year.

Most of the trust's own income of £29m a year goes on mending and managing its 200 stately homes, castles and historic buildings, and running its far-flung estates. It was hesitant about using its choicest mansions for a series of concerts, pageants and Shakespeare plays until American Express agreed to contribute.

"They are helping us to do things we would otherwise have been windy about", explained John Boles, director-general of the trust.

Peas for two

Derek Nally, general secretary of the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors in the Irish Republic, was having a meal on a train. The farmer eating opposite him displaced a pea, which popped into Nally's dinner. The farmer leaned across and picked a pea from Nally's plate with his thumb and forefinger. Calling on his police experience, Nally asked: "But how did you know which one was yours?"

Prince Philip is to be the first outsider to fly Boeing's new 757 jetliner. On Monday he will take the controls over Puget Sound near Seattle after accompanying the Queen on her official visit to Ottowa.

Diary quiz

1. Why did the top of the world break out in bubbles?
2. Whose prescription was that we should all fly the flag?
3. What got a feminist (girlish, lady-like, shrewish, Amazonian) facelift?

PHS

Old age: can you sleep it off?

THE TIMES

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AMERICA'S OTHER CRISIS

Pity Mr Stoessel, the American deputy Secretary of State, treading once more the well-trodden path between Jerusalem and Cairo. His mini-shuttle is not as arduous as the mega-shuttle being performed by his boss, Mr Haig, but the implications are no less profound, involving as they do an American attempt to salvage the peace process from a welter of emotional charge and counter-charge.

Emotion is always *difficult* to disentangle from politics, and impossible to disentangle in the Middle East. Deeply held religious and national beliefs clash, coalesce and clash again. The issue which surpasses all others is that of Jerusalem, possessed by the Israelis, but regarded by Muslims as their second most holy city after Mecca.

There is nothing manufactured about the wave of fury in the Muslim world following the killing of two Arabs and wounding of thirty others by an Israeli trainee soldier on Temple Mount last Sunday. The instant assumption in the Arab world that the gunman concerned was acting in complicity with the Israeli authorities is almost certainly as ludicrous as the Israelis say it is. The arrested man may have had accomplices, but that is not the same thing. The culprit was an American Jewish immigrant, connected with the kind of extreme Jewish groups rightly consigned by the majority of Israelis to the lunatic fringe. The Temple Mount, moreover, is just as sacred to the Jews as it is to Muslims, and the outrage has shocked Israeli opinion.

Arab accusations of Israeli complicity have their roots in a widely-held feeling that the Government of Mr Begin — even though it condemned the shooting — has itself pursued the kind of consistent expansionist anti-Arab policy which encourages extremists, wittingly or unwittingly. This explains the overwhelming response on Wednesday to the call by King Khalid of Saudi Arabia for a one day protest strike, with the attendant danger of more precipitate anti-Israeli action of the kind advocated by radical Arabs.

The Israelis can reply — with reason, unfortunately — that there is at least as much extremism on the other side. The Palestine Liberation Organisation still refuses to recognize the right of Israel to exist, and it has not in practice renounced terrorist methods. The Israelis now complain that the PLO is harassing them not only from Lebanon but also from Jordan and Egypt, countries which have restrained Palestinian guerrilla activities in the past.

The charges against Egypt, which is alleged to have tolerated gun running by the PLO into Gaza from El Arish, on the Egyptian side of Sinai, are particularly serious, since they strike at the very heart of the bilateral treaty between Israel and Egypt achieved at Camp David.

Tension with the PLO over Gaza and Lebanon also puts in question the ceasefire engineered by the United States between Israel and the PLO last July. The ceasefire was seen by some as a possible basis for negotiations which *might* build on the achievement of Camp David and lead — eventually — to mutual recognition by both sides.

This leaves Mr Stoessel with the task of ensuring that the widely predicted invasion of Lebanon does not take place, and that the fragile ceasefire survives. But he also has to ensure that Israel's handover of the final portion of Sinai to Egypt goes ahead in nine days as planned. An invasion of Lebanon, on top of the recent rioting on the West Bank and Gaza, would put at risk whatever chances there are of further progress towards a comprehensive settlement. A break in relations with Egypt over Sinai would undo what has been achieved so far, in the face of centuries of hatred and mistrust.

Fortunately, there are indications that the Sinai handover will not be held up, and that talk of delay may have been a manoeuvre designed to force Egypt to stick to the letter of the peace treaty rather than heed the siren voices of the Arab world urging it to go back on Camp David. Mr Stoessel, at least, has pronounced himself relatively optimistic.

If passions can be cooled over the desecration of the Dome of the Rock, the Sinai timetable maintained, and tension reduced on the Lebanese border, the search might resume for a formula giving the Palestinians self-government on the West Bank. Those, however, are very large "ifs", whose fulfilment requires reason rather than emotion, and foresight rather than short term advantage. The presence of such qualities at Camp David helped to stitch the peace treaty together; their absence at this juncture could yet pull it apart at the seams.

KEEP AMBIGUITY IN DETERRENCE

Four distinguished Americans have now added their voices to the growing chorus of experts who say that Nato should rely more on conventional weapons for the defence of western Europe. In a powerful contribution to the current issue of *Foreign Affairs* Mr McGeorge Bundy, Mr George Kennan, Mr Robert McNamara and Mr Gerard Smith, all of whom served President Kennedy, move out ahead by arguing not only for less reliance on nuclear weapons but for a declared policy of no-first-use.

They point out that any use of nuclear weapons carries a high risk of escalation into general war. Because of this and the profusion of systems on both sides it has become more difficult than ever to construct rational plans for the first use of these weapons by anyone. But the main value of a policy of non-first-use, they say, would be to the health of the western alliance. Public discussion of the possibility of limited nuclear war in Europe has had an unsettling effect, particularly in West Germany, which would be the main battleground. Therefore it is important to widen the "fire-break" between the start of conflict and the use of nuclear weapons. The only way of doing this is to build up conventional capabilities. They argue that this need not be as expensive as is generally assumed because of the arrival of modern precision-guided weapons and the weakening of the military solidarity of the Warsaw Pact. In any case, "even if careful analysis showed that the necessary conventional posture would require funding larger than the three per cent real increase that has been the common target of recent years it would be the best bargain ever offered to the members of the alliance".

Most of their argument is very sound. Nato's strategy of relying on so-called battlefield nuclear weapons as a cheap substitute for men has been dubious ever since the Russians achieved nuclear parity and positively dangerous since they started to bring in new generations of theatre nuclear weapons. The strategy carries twin dangers. On the one hand there is the danger that in any conflict Nato would have to leap too quickly into nuclear war to avert conventional defeat. On the other hand there is the danger that fear of nuclear war becoming uncontrollable would prevent or delay the use of nuclear weapons and thereby make defeat certain. The only answer is to reduce or even abolish battlefield nuclear weapons and develop the ability to fight a longer conventional war. This is perfectly possible, given the political will. It is difficult to imagine any European government finding the money at the moment but if the aim could be agreed the money might gradually follow.

The one flaw in the argument of the distinguished Americans is their proposal for a declared policy of no-first-use. A certain amount of uncertainty and ambiguity is essential to deterrence. If the adversary were to become too confident that a conflict could be confined to conventional warfare he might be more tempted to take risks. Almost certainly it is only the fear of nuclear war that has prevented war in Europe since 1945. It would be dangerous to reduce that fear too much, or to spread the impression that conventional war is somehow acceptable where nuclear war is not.

The problem is that the Americans cannot frighten the Russians without also frightening their allies. To be credible they must persuade the Russians that they might really use nuclear weapons, but the moment they have done this their allies are liable to run for shelter. This is essentially a political problem. Unless the Europeans are prepared to take over responsibility, for their own nuclear defence, which remains a distant possibility, the only way of lessening the problem — it cannot be removed altogether — is to build up more political trust. At the moment Europeans alternate between worrying that the United States will not defend them at all and worrying that it will defend them so well that they will all be killed in the process. Since Mr Reagan came into the White House the pendulum has swung to the latter fear. It could be helped back towards the middle by successful negotiations on arms control. Meanwhile, the conventional option should be pursued with vigour but not to the extent of making public commitments on when or how nuclear weapons would be used.

THE JURY THAT STAYED FAIR

The essence of the jury system is that it should be based as far as possible on the principle of random selection. If it strays too far from that ideal it will lose the very purpose for its existence, and its reputation and respect in the eyes of the public. In practice, of course, no jury can ever be truly representative of the community from which it is drawn. There are statutory exemptions and disqualifications. People in certain occupations cannot serve, nor can those with a serious criminal record (the test for which is soon to be tightened so as to exclude more former criminals from becoming jurors). Disabilities or specific personal circumstances also diminish the pool of potential jurors. There are, too, those who should not sit because of their connexion with a particular case. But in spite of all these derogations it is *still* basically true to say of English juries that they are chosen broadly, at random.

There is one procedure, however, placed in the hands of the defence, that can severely *distort the randomness* principle and lead instead to utterly unrepresentative *juries, picked for* their apparent sympathy. Every defendant has the right to challenge three potential jurors without giving a reason. This does not matter much where there are only one or two defendants. But where there are a number, each with three challenges, the composition of a jury can be altered radically.

There has been widespread criticism of such challenging methods in a number of recent trials involving mainly black defendants. In 1977 (at a time when every defendant had seven peremptory challenges) more than 100 jurors were refused by seventeen defendants charged with various offences arising out of the Notting Hill carnival. In the trials following riots in the St Paul's area of Bristol in 1980, the twelve defendants used up thirty-five of their thirty-six challenges.

The fifteen accused in the Terry May case challenged thirty-seven jurors originally, and when the trial had to re-start, twenty-six more jurors were removed before the second jury was picked. The result was that the jury consisted of five blacks, five *whites, and two Asians. It is* obvious that this would not have been the balance achieved if totally random selection had applied. Yet the jury took to their lengthy and difficult task with admirable conscientiousness and reached verdicts of guilty on a large number of charges. Mr Justice Farquharson's unstinting praise of their efforts was well merited.

What the May case demonstrates, first, is that it is *insulting to suggest* (as, unhappily, Lord Denning did over the St Paul's trial) that black jurors will tend to acquit guilty black defendants on purely racial grounds. There is no evidence of that. *Secondly, it shows* that although, if there are large numbers of defendants the right to challenge can produce unrepresentative juries (though many randomly picked juries also turn out to *be unrepresentative*), the accused will not necessarily gain by their tactics. The case for reducing the number of challenges without cause, or even, as some would have abolishing the right altogether; *retaining only* challenges for cause, has not been made out.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Economic duress' in labour law

From Mr A. J. P. Doyle

Sir, In your issue of April 8 you published a letter from Professor Lord Wedderburn in which he complains that as a result of the recent decision of the House of Lords in the case of the Universe Sentinel, where the doctrine of economic duress was held to apply, trade unions cannot now know when they might be guilty of a "new" wrong.

In 1978 this ship unloaded its cargo and was held up in a British port, having been blacklisted by the ITF (International *Transport* Workers' *Federation*) and by tug workers as a flag-of-convenience ship. To avoid catastrophic losses the American owners were forced to capitulate to a series of union demands for payment of retrospective wages, new contracts for the crew and so forth. In addition the union demanded and received a payment by way of a contribution to its welfare fund.

Unquestionably a demand for improved wages is protected and the *shipowners would have had* no claim for losses resulting from union action to prevent their *ships leaving port.*

In the instant case, however, the shipowners took a point of principle, namely: was the demand for the contribution to the welfare fund protected? The court decided it was not. There must surely be some limit to the protection given by Parliament. Does Lord Wedderburn agree that a demand for a contribution to funds of a guerrilla organization might not be protected even if associated with a claim for improved wages?

Would he not also agree that a claim for a contribution to the *personal bank account of a union* official might not be protected, or a demand for payment to the strike fund of the union itself, or another union? If some demands are not protected clearly there is some element of uncertainty.

Contrary to Lord Wedderburn's view, I suggest that the social reality is that the majority of us, union and non-union members alike, recognize that a line must be drawn and we look to the courts, where we find judges whose impartiality and integrity are beyond question. To suggest that in drawing a line judges, who are the authors of the common law, are antipathetic to "workers' solidarity expressed in trade union action" is, to use words used by Jeremy Bentham in another context, "nonsense on stilts".

Yours etc.,
A. J. P. DOYLE,
33 Cavendish Square, W10.
April 13.

Lost for words

From Mr R. G. Osmond

Sir, I read in the press (report, April 12) of efforts made in the latest edition of *Roget's Thesaurus* to remove an alleged sexist bias in English. Two points strike me.

It is surely the prime function of a work of linguistic reference (whether dictionary or thesaurus) to be primarily descriptive of accepted usage rather than prescriptive of what the compiler considers should be standard usage. Humpty Dumpty may have thought that words meant what he wanted them to mean, but that *is surely not an acceptable* approach for a hitherto reputable work of reference?

Secondly, there is an ineluctable impoverishment of vocabulary in such an approach. To take one quoted example, "country-dweller" does not mean the same as "countryman", which it is reported to replace. It requires only a moment's thought to conclude that many countrymen live in towns, and that many country-dwellers will never become countrymen (or country-*women) in a month of Sundays.* What about "fellow-countrymen" (or compatriots)? They are not the same as fellow country-dwellers, *even* if that infelicitous phrase were to gain currency.

In short, the approach seems "misconceived" — a word with appropriate sexist bias in this instance?

Yours etc,
RICHARD OSMOND,
The Naval Club,
38 Hill Street, W1.
April 14.

From Mrs Clare Fordham

Sir, I must say that I have always *understood it to be the case when* using the word mankind that man embraces woman.

Yours faithfully,
CLARE FORDHAM,
26 Measham Road,
Ashby de la Zouch,
Leicestershire.
April 14.

Black cricket in South Africa

From the President of the South African Cricket Union

Sir, Misconceptions and errors perpetrated by Mr Robert Archer (March 30) cannot go unchallenged.

Mr Archer questions the motivation and sincerity of the South African Cricket Union (SACU) in *its efforts to promote cricket* among all races in South Africa. It should be a cause of regret to Mr Archer and all who follow cricket that my predecessor, Mr Rashid Varachia, died in office last December during his fifth term as president of the SACU. He is thus unable to answer Mr Archer's charges personally, but the track record of the SACU under Mr Varachia's direction stands as his monument and it is my intention to continue along the path set by Mr Varachia.

The SACU was established in 1977 as a non-racial controlling body. The constitution states that the union administers cricket "in such a way as to enable participation in it of all inhabitants without distinction of colour, race or creed". This principle embodies players, administrators and spectators.

Mr Archer questions whether the *SACU* has a mandate from white cricketers to pursue this policy and in particular to spend the sums of money necessary to raise the standards of black cricketers. The answer is that the SACU has vigorously followed this policy since its inception and some 75 per cent of money for coaching and development (approximately R500,000) is spent on *what we term underprivileged* areas, in essence black areas: this despite the fact that cricket is not yet as popular among the black community as it is among whites.

Mr Archer's figures of SACU membership are out of date, but it is probably correct that the ratio of white to non-white cricketers is in the region of 9:1. We in the SACU prefer, however, not to label cricketers according to race but rather to ensure equal opportunities for all cricketers. *The SACU is a fully democratic* organization and its policies enjoy wholehearted grass roots support. It is surely significant that Mr Varachia was elected unopposed to each of his five terms as president.

All cricketers in South Africa have access to all facilities. There are no racial barriers to membership of clubs or access to *grounds under the control* of the SACU.

References to the South African Government's "multinational" policy of 1976 have no relevance in 1982. The SACU operates as a fully autonomous body which does not countenance interference from any outside agency, including the Government. Whatever the policy of the Government may be, particularly in regard to schools cricket, as raised by Mr Archer, it is a fact that regular inter-schools matches involving players from all sectors of the community take *place on a home-and-away basis.* A scholarship scheme has been instituted to enable talented young cricketers from underprivileged areas to attend leading schools where their talent can be developed. Intensive coaching in "black" areas takes place daily throughout the cricket season.

Mr Archer questions the assertion that the more than 50 English professional cricketers who spend their winters in South Africa are working hard to *improve black, and particularly* schoolboy, cricket. Yet most of these professionals are employed *primarily as coaches and the* majority play a major role in the activities outlined above.

Mr Archer refers to "fine words" and promises that have not been fulfilled. If he were to visit South Afirca, as did a delegation of member countries of the International Cricket Conference in 1979, he would see for himself just how much has been achieved. Although the primary objective of the SACU is to achieve a fair deal for all South African cricketers, rather than an end to international isolation, the ICC delegation *concluded unanimously that the* SACU had fulfilled all the conditions for membership set by the ICC.

Despite South Africa's continued isolation there is no dispute in cricketing circles as to the genuineness of the South African Cricket Union's efforts to eradicate racism from South African cricket.

Yours sincerely,
JOE PAMENSKY,
South African Cricket Union,
PO Box 9430,
Johannesburg 2000,
RSA.
April 5.

Falklands crisis

From Lord Bethell, MEP for London, North-West (Conservative)

Sir, The United States's stance over the Falklands crisis reveals not only conflicting geographical loyalties, as explained in your leading article today (April 12), but also, most dangerously of all, the hint of a readiness to compromise the principles that are the main justification of the Atlantic alliance.

What distinguishes Nato from the Organization of American States and other groupings is its members' obligation to elect their governments democratically. True, certain countries, Greece for seven years and now Turkey, lapse from time to time, but the democratic requirement is always there, giving the lie to those European neutralist heretics who seek nowadays to portray the two superpowers as equally damnable.

It is this, rather than any wounded *pride* at having our nation placed on the same level as Argentina, that should begin to disturb us. The United States, faced with a choice between an ally of principle and an ally of geography, seems to be hesitating and weighing up the expediencies. Nato it seems, is no longer an overriding alliance.

There are other elements in the case that make American neutralism seem bizarre. The Argentine Government *is a junta, which has* institutionalized police murder. It helped to undermine President *Carter's grain embargo against* the Soviet Union and it now commits the worst crime in the international law book, military invasion of another country's territory, one that itself enjoys full democracy.

Perhaps President Reagan sits astride the fence only temporarily, so as better to be able to mediate. That would be a reasonable tactic, though one dangerously open to misinterpretation. However he now descends from his uncomfortable perch, the suspicion will remain that his main preoccupation is to preserve *stability in his own* "back yard", even if it means currying favour with finger-nail-pulling regimes.

While it is *still too* early to make this into a general forecast of American long-term policy, Britain will have noted these past days the fact that it was the 10 European countries, faced with the invasion of one of their associated territories by an outside power, who acted unequivocally and immediately.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS BETHELL,
Vice-Chairman,
European Parliament
Political Committee,
Plateau du Kirchberg,
Luxembourg.
April 12.

From Professor G. E. Fogg, FRS

Sir, I am concerned that so many of your correspondents think that, our obligations to the islanders apart, there is no point in Britain retaining sovereignty over the Falklands.

Interest in the economic exploitation of the Antarctic is growing and it seems probable that most development will be in the area of the Falkland Islands Dependencies.

The productivity of the sea is higher around South Georgia than anywhere else in the Southern Ocean and these waters are already being fished by several nations, although not by Britain.

Oil and minerals, if they occur in exploitable quantities, will be won with less difficulty in the dependencies than elsewhere in the Antarctic. Most of the exploration and research in this sector has been carried out by Britain, whereas the contribution by Argentina has been trivial. Surely we should benefit from the 60 years of survey and research we have done in this area. Our knowledge and exper*tise will be essential, in any case,* if exploitation is to be carried out in an ecologically acceptable way.

Transfer of sovereignty of the Falklands to such a volatile country as Argentina would limit our use of this key base for operations and open the way for the achievement of what seems to Argentina's ultimate aim, assumption of exclusive rights in what is now the Falkland Islands Dependencies.

The only acceptable compromise would be to hold the rival claims of Argentina and Britain in abeyance by including the Falklands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands within the Antarctic Treaty area.

Yours faithfully,
G. E. FOGG,
Bodolben,
Llandegfan,
Isle of Anglesey.
April 9.

The Church on a collision course?

From Mr Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead (Labour)

Sir, Today (April 2) Synod publishes *Worship and Doctrine,* which is intended to help clergy and lay people understand the law governing worship in the *Church* of England.

This guide's publication is presumably part of the Church's response to the widespread unease over recent liturgical reforms, the way new forms of worship have been introduced, and the recent actions in Parliament which have reflected a general sense of unease about what is happening in the Church of England.

In the last session of Parliament moves were made to strengthen the position of congregations wishing to base their worship on the Prayer Book. The *Secretary General of the General* Synod is reported as saying that had Parliament enacted this legislation, "it would have posed very great problems indeed for the Church".

It would be wrong for anyone in the Church's hierarchy to think that the disquiet surrounding the new form of service *will* quietly subside with the production of Synod's new guide. Nor should the hierarchy be under any illusion that the disquiet of Anglican MPs is linked only to the attempt to impose a new liturgy.

A careful reading of Worship and Doctrine shows that, far from strengthening the laity's influence in deciding the form of worship in their parish church, it has been further reduced.

More significant is the ruling on what was technically known as Series 1 and which was in fact the form of service used by most parishes in the Church of England for the greater part of this century. It is this service which most people refer to when talking about the Prayer Book and the new guide tells us that its use is now illegal. It is difficult to reconcile such an action with the public presentation of the new guide which urges "generosity" in settling disputes over whether *The Book of Common Prayer* or the *Alternative Service Book* should be used.

The way the Church is con*ducting itself also came to the* surface when the ecclesiastical committee considered the Pastoral (Amendment) Measure. The area of concern centred on the section which makes it easier for the authorities to pull down churches. The ecclesiastical committee has no power to amend a measure, only to accept or reject. Many members agreed reluctantly to the measure, but only after witnessing the most squalid little political manoeuvre I have seen this parliament.

This brings us to the nub of the issue. The Church of England is the established Church and I wish it to remain so. But increasingly the Church wants all the advantages of establishment without any of its disadvantages. It would appear that, perhaps unthinkingly, much of the hierarchy longs for the status of a sect. *If it* sees its future in these terms it should be honest about it. If its present behaviour continues it may sadly find itself in direct conflict with Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK FIELD,
House of Commons.
April 2.

Surgeon's hungry allies

From Mr B. J. Rider

Sir, About 60 years ago in Jersey *I used to apply leeches to the* temple of a friend who at that time suffered from high blood pressure. I found no difficulty in persuading the right end to set to work, even though I was an amateur at the job.

What may interest your correspondents is that the leeches, after satiation, were placed in a salt solution in order to persuade them to disgorge and so be ready and hungry when next required.

Yours faithfully,
B. J. RIDER,
Cedar Cottage,
The Glade, Crapstone,
Yelverton,
Devon.
April 13.

Organ voices

From Mr Charles Strange

Sir, *Dr Stanley Monkhouse's* views (April 12) on the merits of the "classical organ" in the concert hall need no endorsement.

As another organist I would humbly suggest a rider to the effect that the concert use of the organ (apart from its inclusion in some orchestral scores) is in any case very secondary to its prime function as a liturgical instrument, whose scale and distinctive qualities greatly depend upon a just acoustical relation to its natural environment — the stone architecture of cathedral or church.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES E. STRANGE,
15 Wentworth Gardens,
Palmers Green, N13.
April 13.

Tree for a tankful

From Mrs Marjorie Fargus

Sir, The letter from Mr Paul *Medcalf* (*April 12*) echoes my thoughts as I was travelling from Florence to Bologna yesterday. The banks on either side of the motorway were covered with trees, shrubs and creeping plants and the central reservation had either grass, or small hedges or *both. I thought how pleasant it* would be if the barren wastelands we call motorways could be similarly planted.

Incidentally, all the lay-bys were spacious, with trees and shrubs, had areas of grass on which to picnic and all had a table with a thatch "*sunshade*" and wooden benches round it, very different from the disgusting sight of some of our lay-bys.

Yours truly,
MARJORIE FARGUS,
50, Gretham Road,
Bushey,
Hertfordshire.
April 13.

Arts Day

From Mr Stephen Games

Sir, As one of the co-ordinators of this summer's Arts Day I share your leader-writer's reservations (April 3) about setting aside days, weeks or years for special interests. It *is* preposterous to switch on a 24-hour celebration of the arts and as suddenly to switch off again, just as it is preposterous to switch on a 24-hour celebration of Christ at Christmas and Easter, of friends and family on their birthdays, and of our country on its saint's day.

But you, the press, force it on us by your insistence on topi*cality. The arts as such are static.* The press gives them its attention only when they can be turned into an event — a first night of a new production, a sale at Sotheby's, a concert at the Barbican — as if the work of art suddenly burst into life and then *vanished* again.

I know as an architecture critic how difficult it is to get column inches to write about buildings, because buildings don't happen, like plays and concerts; they're just *there* and they go on being there. That is why so many exhibitions take place: to force some momentary attention on what is actually a continuity.

Arts Day is an attempt to generate nationwide participation, and it will last only a day because it is going to require a lot of personal commitment. That is why I want as many people as possible who live or work in fine buildings, old or new, to contact me about making those buildings available on June 24 for other local people to enjoy — for small recitals, perhaps, or displays of arts and crafts.

Unlike your leader-writer, however, I would only want the visitors to stay for a few hours!

Yours,
STEPHEN GAMES,
Architecture Co-ordinator,
Arts Day,
20 Priory Terrace, NW6.
April 6

Numerical advantage?

From Mr L. D. Remmett-Peay

Sir, Sir Robin MacLellan (April 5) may be interested to know that there were apparently more Romans in Britain in 1937.

The Society for Pure English, of Oxford, dated its *Tract on Linguistic Self-Criticism* MDCCCCXXXVII (sic).

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
L. D. REMMETT-PEAY,
The East India, Sports & Public Schools Club,
16 St James's Square, SW1.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 15: The Queen left Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon in a Canadian Armed Forces boeing 707 (Mission Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Gerry Edwardson) to visit Canada.

Her Majesty was received upon arrival at the airport by Mr Allan Mundi (Deputy Director, Heathrow Airport, London), the Baroness Phillips (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London), Mr Paul Lapointe (Deputy High Commissioner for Canada), Brigadier-General Bruce Burgess (Commander and Defence Adviser Canadian High Commission) and Mr Norman Payne (Chairman, British Airports Authority).

The following will be in attendance during the visit: the Duchess of Grafton, Madame André Reynauld, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore, Mr Henry Davis, Mr Robert Fellowes, Mr Michael Shea, Surgeon Captain Norman Blacklock, RN, Air Vice-Marshal John de M. Severne, Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson, Lieutenant-Colonel Hubert Leduc and Major Bruce Griffin.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, this morning visited The Princess Marina College, Arborfield and took the Salute at the Passing Out Parade.

His Royal Highness was received upon arrival by the Colonel Commandant (Major-General S. K. Lecky).

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Major the Hon Andrew Wigram, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 15: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this morning presided at the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Children's League held at the City Chambers, Edinburgh.

Her Royal Highness was later entertained at luncheon by the Right Honourable Tom Morgan, Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

In the afternoon, Her Royal Highness presided at the annual General Meeting of the Royal Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The Princess Margaret, countess of Snowdon, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by The Hon Mrs Wills.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 15: The Duke of Kent today visited Marconi Space and Defence Systems Ltd at Frimley, Surrey.

Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

The Queen of Denmark celebrates her birthday today.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. W. Bailey and Miss S. R. Dedhar

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of the late Mr Michael Bailey and Mrs C. M. T. Bailey, of New Malden, Surrey, and Roshan, elder daughter of Mr S. H. Dedhar, of Forest Hill, London, and Mrs D. J. Wynne-Harley, of Blackheath, London.

Mr D. A. Blythe and Miss E. A. Leaver

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs E. Blythe, of Royston, Hertfordshire, and Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. A. J. Leaver, of Old Riffhams, Danbury, Essex.

Mr R. S. Carr-Ellison and Miss R. A. Gowers

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Sir Ralph and Lady Carr-Ellison, of Hedgeley Hall, Alnwick, Northumberland, and Rosemary, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. E. Gowers, of Tuddenham St Mary, Suffolk.

Mr J. J. Davies and Miss C. R. A. Essex

The engagement is announced between Julian, elder son of Mr and Mrs C. J. Davies, of Radyr, Cardiff, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr A. C. Essex, of Martyr Worthy, Winchester, and Mrs M. A. Essex, of Hampstead, NW3.

Mr W. A. Duncombe and Miss F. C. Anns

The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs B. A. Duncombe, of Oxford, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. G. Anns, of Cherry Green, Great Dunmow, Essex.

Captain N. C. Everard and Miss K. O. R. Cameron

The engagement is announced between Nicholas Charles Everard, 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's), eldest son of Mr and Mrs Simon Everard, of Sludge Hall, Billesdon, Leicestershire, and Kirsty (Kiki) Ottilie Reeves, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs D. E. R. Cameron, of Episkopi, BFPO 53, Cyprus.

Mr M Farrant and Miss J. Brierley

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Dr and Mrs P. C. Farrant, of Sidcup, Kent, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs N Brierley, of Bath, Avon.

Mr T. J. Howe and Miss T. C. Gadsden

The engagement is announced between Tom, younger son of the late Dr J. A. Howe and of Mrs J. A. Howe, of Ridgeway, Sheffield, and Tessa, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. C. Gadsden, of Waterlooville, Hampshire.

Mr H. Raw-Rees and Miss L. J. Grisedale

The engagement is announced between Hywel, son of Mr and Mrs D. G. Raw-Rees, of Llandre, Ceredigion, and Lisa Jane, daughter of Mrs P. D. Grisedale, of Nebo, Llanon, Ceredigion, Dyfed, and Mr J. A. Grisedale, of Burghfield Common, Berkshire.

Mr O. S. Shackelford and Miss L. J. Pinder

The engagement is announced between Oliver, son of the late Mr Peter Shackelford and of Mrs Ann Murray, of Praze, Cornwall, and Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Pinder, of Tadworth, Surrey.

Mr G. P. F. Smith and Miss M. Stevenson

The engagement is announced between Glenvil, son of Mr and Mrs R. T. F. Smith, of Liverpool and Deganwy, and Margaret, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Stevenson, of Derryhubbert, Portadown, Co Armagh.

Mr S. E. Straarup and Miss J. M. Grigson

The engagement is announced between Sven, only son of Mrs S. Straarup and the late Mr E. Straarup, of Colombo, Sri Lanka, and Joanna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. B. W. Grigson, of Wadhurst, Sussex.

Mr M. M. Stothert and Miss L. J. Turner

The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Richard Stothert, of Knutsford, Cheshire, and Lucy, second daughter of Mr John Turner, of Sonning, Berkshire, and Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, of Knutsford, Cheshire.

Mr J. A. R. Tidswell-Norrish and Miss S. J. Hughes

The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Major and Mrs Alan Norrish, and Stephanie Jill, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Hughes, of Matching, Knotty Green, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr B. E. Toye and Miss F. A. Hogg

The engagement is announced between Bryan Edward, younger son of the late Mr Herbert Toye and Mrs Toye, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Fiona Ann, only daughter of Mrs P. S. A. Hogg, of London and Wellington, New Zealand, and Mr G. H. J. Hogg, of Wellington, New Zealand.

Mr M. A. J. Wheeler-Booth and Miss E. F. Smith

The engagement is announced between Michael Addison John, son of the late Mr Addison Wheeler and the late Mrs Angela Wheeler-Booth, and Emily Frances, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Oliver Smith, of Phillimore Terrace, London W8, and Iden, Rye, Sussex.

Mr D. J. Wright and Miss A. J. Tweedie

The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Commander Henry Wright and Mrs W. A. Stewart and stepson of Captain W. A. Stewart, CBE, RN, of Hamilton House, Canon Street, Winchester, and Amanda, daughter of Mr Vere Tweedie, MC, and Mrs Tweedie, of Old Larkshayes, Dalwood, East Devon.

Marriages

Mr N. D. Jamieson and Miss L. C. Gosling

The marriage took place on Thursday, April 15, at the Church of St Simon Zelotes, SW3, between Mr Nigel Jamieson and Miss Linda Gosling. Canon Derek Eastman officiated, assisted by Prebendary J. Parker.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father was attended by Emma Feilden, Charles White, and Kate and Guy Weller-Poley. Mr Nicholas Gent was best man.

A reception was held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J. R. Rathbone, MP and Mrs S. J. Stopford Sackville

A service of blessing was held in the Crypt Chapel of the Palace of Westminster after the marriage in London on Thursday, April 15, of Mr John Rankin Rathbone, MP, and Mrs Susan Jenkin Stopford Sackville.

A wave from The Queen at Heathrow airport yesterday before she left for Ottawa for her Canadian visit.

Luncheon

Newspaper Press Fund

The Lord Provost of Glasgow, accompanied by the Lady Provost, welcomed the guests at a luncheon given by the Newspaper Press Fund, Glasgow and West of Scotland District, in the City Chambers, Glasgow, yesterday. Mr Charles M. Wilson, chairman of the branch, presided and Mr Charles Douglas-Home, editor, *The Times*, was the principal speaker. The other speakers were Mr Anthony Miles, appeals chairman of the fund, and Mr Duncan Miller. Grace was said by the Most Rev Thomas Winning. Among the guests, who included members of both Houses of Parliament, civic leaders and representatives of trade unions, the church, the law, journalism and local government, were:

Sir Edward Pickering, Sir Charles O'Halloran, Mrs Charles Wilson, Mr Duncan Campbell, chairman of the fund, Councillor Jean McFadden, Mr and Mrs Bernard Vickers, Mr and Mrs Derek Webster, Mr Steven Hamilton, Mr and Mrs Ernie Walker, Mr Jock Stein, Mr and Mrs George McKechnie, Mr and Mrs Ian McColl, Mr Brian H Thomson, Mr and Mrs Jim Chapman, Mr Ian Nimmo, Mr and Mrs Harry Bell, Mr and Mrs Jack Leslie, Mr and Mrs Christine Stewart, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr and Mrs Eric Hamilton, Mr Jim Rodger, Mr Peter Evans, Mr Andrew Fyall and Mr John M Paterson.

secretary of the Football Association, and Mr John Lyall, Manager of West Ham United Football Club. Other guests included:

Sir Stanley Rous, Mr J J Dunnett MP, Mr A D McMullen, Mr Joe Mercer, Mr Bert Millichip, Mr Harry Grayson, Mr Peter Taylor, Mr L Cearns, Mr and Mrs Hardling and the directors and staff of the West Ham United Football Club.

Society of Apothecaries of London

The Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London, Sir Ronald Gibson, assisted by the Senior Warden, Dr T. D. Whittet, and the deputy Junior Warden, Mr W. F. W. Southwood, gave a dinner at Apothecaries' Hall yesterday. The guests included:

The Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, the Earl of Malmesbury, Mr John Browne, MP, Dr A G Frykholm, President of the Swedish Pharmaceutical Society and Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sir R M Sinclair, Dr G T H Clement, Dr Ian Jackson, Dr F H Willcox, Professor N. H. Ashton, Sir David Hildyard, Dr M P W Godfrey, Mr D G N Bebb, Mr R M Ferrier, Dr F C W Capps, Mr Geoffrey Evans, Mr D A Moody, Mr J H Sheppard-Bryant, Mr W J Ranson, Mr Charles Bent, Mr G T Hoult, Professor P Fuller, Mr Clifford Cooper, Mr Peter B Wright, Air Vice-Marshal H B Kelly and Air Commodore J F Hobson.

GAFTA

The annual dinner of the Grain and Feed Trade Association was held at Grosvenor House on April 15. Mr L. J. Wright, president, was in the chair. The principal guest was Mr David Curry, MEP, and the other speakers were Mr Mogens Olesen and Mr W. S. Biggs, deputy president.

Dinners

Insurers' Company

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Mr Sheriff and Mrs Anthony Eskenzi, were present at a livery dinner given by the Insurers' Company at Mansion House last night. Mr David Palmer, Master, was the host. Others present included:

Alderman Sir Kenneth and Lady Cork, Alderman and Mrs A C Grayson, the Chairman of the British Insurance Association, the President of the Chartered Insurance Institute and Mrs Tom Roberts, the chairman of the Insurance Brokers Registration Council and Mrs Francis Perkins and Mr and Mrs Alex Dibbs.

National Sporting Club

The National Sporting Club gave a dinner in honour of Mr Trevor Brooking at the Café Royal last night. Air Chief Marshal Sir Augustus Walker presided and the speakers were Mr Neil Macfarlane, Minister for Sport, Mr E. A. Croker, general

Service dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785

A dinner was held at the Porter Tun Room yesterday to commemorate Beaufort and the Admiralty Chart. Rear-Admiral D. W. Haslam presided and the guest of the club was Captain Ralph Maybourn.

HQRAF Support Command

Air Vice-Marshal D. F. Bates, Air Officer Administration, and members of the Brampton Park officers' mess, RAF Brampton, held a dinner last night. Group Captain B. J. Hunter presided and the guests included Mr John Major, MP, Group Captain K. J. Lovett and Mr Arthur Gibson.

Birthdays today



Mr Peter Ustinov, the actor and dramatist, who is 61.

Lord Aberconway, 69; Mr Kingsley Amis, 60; Sir Ove Arup, 87; Miss Joan Bakewell, 49; Captain Sir Cecil Boyd-Rochfort, 95; Dr D. L. Davies, 71; Mr J. E. S. Fawcett, 69; Lieutenant-General Sir John Glubb, 85; Sir Laurence Grafftey-Smith, 90; Mr J. H. Harvey Jones, 58; Mr Spike Milligan, 64; Sir Albert Mumford, 79; Miss Constance Shacklock, 69; Sir Edmund Stockdale, 79.

Latest appointments

Captain W. A. Higgins, aged 53, Commodore, HMS Drake, Plymouth, to be promoted rear-admiral and to be Flag Officer, Medway, and Port Admiral, Chatham, on August 6, in succession to Rear-Admiral G. M. K. Brewer.

Sandhurst commissions

Princess Margaret was the Queen's representative at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst yesterday. The sword of honour was awarded to Junior Under-Officer T. D. P. O'Leary and the winner of the Overseas Cane was Cadet Corporal G. M. Ignace.

The following have been granted general service commissions and will return on May 4 for the standard military course:

M D W Alexander, Welbeck C; J L Archibald, Sherbourne; M Baines, Welbeck; S Barnard, Welbeck; M R Baxter, Welbeck; S E R Bedford, Winchester; T M Burgess, Selwyn C; D Burnham, Welbeck; G H Q Burns, Farnham GS; M I Condliffe, Welbeck; T R Cottee, Clacton Co High; D M Callen, DYRMS; J W Dakin, Welbeck; J M Douglas, Welbeck; P Fergusson, Campbeltown GS; P W Gibbery, Welbeck; C P Guise-Brown, Downside; J E Harris, Welbeck; T W D Isaac, Welbeck; A W James, Colchester GS; M C J Hutchings, Repton; C P H Knaggs, Falcon C; C M Lalter, Shebbear C; J P A Luckins, Welbeck; R M Lyman, Scotch C; G A R Masters, Watford GS; J O McAreavey, St Malachy's C; J E Santos Medonca, Bishopsholt GS; G M Moriarty, Downside; A H Mullan, Welbeck; R N O'Byrne, Victoria C; T D P O'Leary, St Joseph's C; A B Pearse, Mansfield S; J A Roberts, Welbeck; C J H Sanderson, Welbeck; J R Shallcross, Welbeck; P W H Simpson, Welbeck; C Snaith, Welbeck; D L Strawbridge, Welbeck; A V Tucker, Magdalen CS; M A Twelftree, Seaford Comp S; T D Vaughan, Uppingham; R P Warren, Bideford S; R P Wilson, Welbeck; I W Woods, Carres's GS; S R Workman, Welbeck; E J Wymbs, Rodborough Sec S.

The following qualified for short service commissions and will join the regiment/corps shown against their names:

C M Abraham, RCT, King's GS; W J W Anstice, 5 Innis Dg, Dundee HS; N I Astley, RAOC, Weobley CS and Hereford 6th form C; D C S Ball, RCT, Welbeck; R T S Bedford, RE, Kelvinside AC; M J M Blackburn WFR, Price's C; R E Blaksly QDG, Westminster; J C Bromhead, LI, Seaford C; L J Bryan, RCT, Gosforth HS; J R Cape, LG, Milton Abbey S and Hammersmith C; S L T Carpenter, R Irish, Brighton C; A I Cartwright, RRF, Morrisons AC; ML Child, 2/2GR, Sir William Borlase GS; RMA Clarke, Glosters, Epsom; J O R Coyn, QRIH, Shrewsbury; C E Cooke, 9/12L, Uppingham; S J Cotton, RRF, St Andrews; R M Coveney, RAOC, Worcester Boys GS; G Crawford, RS, Downside; R A Dare, RA, Welbeck; P J M Davies, LI, Clifton; M M A Davis, R Irish, Newton S; J C Douglas, R Irish, Royal Belfast Ac Inst; S P Dowe, RAOC, Longmead; A S J Duncan, QO Hldrs Shiplake C; R H Eaton, Para, Capiland C; E J Evelegh, RGJ, Abingdon S; M Franklin, Glosters, Godalming C; R F D Fryer, RHG/D, Eton; C J B Gooderham, RAOC, Loretto S; J D S Haskard, 1/2GR, Stowe; J R A Hawkins, RAOC, Plymouth C; J N Hazou, RAOC, St Marylebone GS; R A Head, Para, St Bees S; C J Hinkirk, Green Howards, Brahdin GS; C H Hodder, RAOC, Giffort Tech HS; M A Holden, WFR, King's S; C C J Hopwood, QLR, Oundle; B Howard Allen, IG, Downside; R C Hutton, QRIH, All Hallows S; H A Ingham-Clark, LG, Shiplake C; J W B Jenkinson, 13/18H, Blundell's; H M R Jones King's Own Border, Keswick GS; E C N Kelly, R Irish, Belfast Ac; M S Kerford, QLR, New Westminster Sen Sec; P Z M Krasinski, Gren Gds, Ampleforth; M P Llewelyn R Signals, Brynmirion CS; H S MacDonald, RE, Morrison's Ac; C J Mason, RA, Cranleigh; J R Milne, RS, Wellington; A G Parker, RCT, Elizabeth C; D Parr, RCT, Tupton Hall CS; J R J Powell, Queen's, Kent C; J C E Price, AAC, Oundle; J S Rendall, RCT, Frome C; P D Robinson, RA; Friars S; T C Rogers, 16/15L, Wellington C; J J S Scott, 9/12L, Oundle; A D M Shallcross, RE, Leighton Park; N M Smallwood, Queen's, The King's S; A M Smith, RA, Royal GS; I G Stark, RCT, Bridlington GS; N H C Strapp, Glosters, Arle CS; A D Thomas, Cheshire, Llanishen HS; M L Tower, RCT, Bede S; C J Tweedy, BW, Wellington; R N Weatherby, 15/19H, Eton; A C B Whitelaw, RHF, St Aloysius C.

The following overseas cadets also passed out with a view to being commissioned in the armed forces of their countries:

N A Braithwaite, Barbados; S B Recce, Barbados; H A Young, Belize; W S Pule, Botswana; B H Abindin, Brunei; B P C Ak Rosli, Brunei; A A Khalid, Jordan; W K Kiprop, Kenya; J C B Njoloma, Malawi; G M Ignace, Mauritius; P Appadoo, Mauritius; S Al Busaidi, Oman; M S M Salim Oman; S A Al Amry, Oman; R M Al Alwawy, Oman; M A Al Amri, Saudi Arabia; A N Al Saber, Saudi Arabia; B L A Pang, Singapore; A K H Koh, Singapore; E P Abdalla, Sudan; E D Rabih, Sudan; C Chankaew, Thailand; P Fuangfoo, Thailand; R L A Smart, Trinidad and Tobago; S Mataswa, Zimbabwe.

Coming to earth with divine lunacy

By Philip Howard

Some of the best people are or were mad, from Hamlet and the Fools in Shakespeare onwards and backwards. Divine madness will keep on breaking out at the Classical Association.

Yesterday the classicists in conference in London had a crazy time hearing the professor of French at University College lecture about a Dutch scholar who died 10 centuries after the end of their period.

Professor Michael Screech was talking, of course, about Erasmus, the giant of Renaissance scholarship whom he has made his own, to our benefit. In particular, he expounded Erasmus's view of the folly or madness of the Christian Gospel.

Aristotle first argued that great wits to madness closely were allied, both growing out of the desirable but fearful complexion of melancholy. Erasmus, the great Renaissance humanist Christian, used that ancient doctrine in his interpretation of Christianity and the immortality of the soul.

The central notion of Christianity became the platonic ecstasy or soul leaving the body to come into contact with spiritual absolutes away from the muddy matter of this world.

Not just Socrates and Plato seemed mad, but King David, and Jesus, whose family in the Gospel according to Mark thought him fit to be tied. Who other than a divine lunatic would send his only begotten son to be tortured and killed in order to demonstrate that worldly wisdom are irrelevant?

It was a pleasure to sit in the overflow of such learning and enthusiasm. If Professor Screech is mad I wish he would bite some of our other contemporary scholars.

'Times' future 'more secure with Murdoch'

The future of *The Times* under the ownership of Mr Rupert Murdoch is more secure now than it has been in the past four years, Mr Charles Douglas-Home, the editor, said yesterday in Glasgow. He compared Mr Murdoch to a "warrior king" leading his troops from the front.

Mr Douglas-Home, who was speaking at a luncheon for the Glasgow and west of Scotland branch of the Newspaper Press Fund, said Mr Murdoch had persevered through very difficult times, including the "trauma" of a change of editorship, which he would not have done had he intended to close the paper.

Allhallows School

Summer Term begins on Tuesday, April 20, and ends on Friday, July 9. Confirmation is on May 8 (Bishop of Exeter) and the Gaudy for OHs ('61-'65) is on May 15. The school will be open to visitors on May 28 and 29 as part of Maritime '82. Speech day is on June 5; the guest of honour will be the Principal of Cirencester Agricultural College. OHs' cricket week begins on July 11.

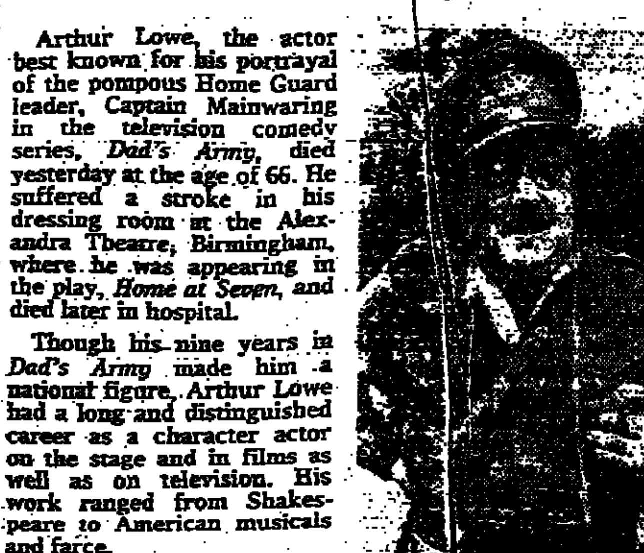
Latest wills

Lady Kelly, of Hammersmith, London, widow of Sir Gerald Kelly, the artist, left estate valued at £775,216 net.

OBITUARY

MR ARTHUR LOWE

Dad's Army's comic captain



Arthur Lowe, the actor best known for his portrayal of the pompous Home Guard leader, Captain Mainwaring in the television comedy series, *Dad's Army*, died yesterday at the age of 66. He suffered a stroke in his dressing room at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, where he was appearing in the play, *Home at Seven*, and died later in hospital.

Though his nine years in *Dad's Army* made him a national figure, Arthur Lowe had a long and distinguished career as a character actor on the stage and in films as well as on television. His work ranged from Shakespeare to American musicals and farce.

He was born in Hayfield, Derbyshire, on September 22, 1915, the only son of a railway worker, left school at 16 to work in an aeroplane factory, and started acting, as an amateur, while serving in the army during the war. He made his first professional appearance with a repertory company in Manchester in 1945. A short, rotund man, he wryly remarked that premature baldness decided from the age of 30 that he should be a character actor rather than a romantic lead.

His first West End play was at the Duke of York's theatre in 1950. During the 1950's he appeared in several musicals in London, including *Call Me Madam*, *Pal Joey* and *The Pyjama Game*. In 1964, he was in the original production of John Osborne's *Inadmissible Evidence* at the Royal Court Theatre, and he also played at the Royal Court in *A Soldier's Fortune* and Charles Wood's *Bingo*.

He joined the National Theatre for Maugham's *Home and Beauty* and was Stephano in a revival of *The Tempest* at the Old Vic in 1974.

He started in television in 1951, but did not become widely known until some years later when he played the irascible store manager, Leonard Swindley, in *Coronation Street*. The part lasted for six years, and led to a separate series.

Dad's Army, which Lowe described as "a once in a lifetime thing", brought him even greater popularity. His Captain Mainwaring was a superb comic creation, acted with great skill and subtlety. The relationship between Mainwaring, the self-made bank manager, and his vague, public school deputy, played by John Le Mesurier, helped to give *Dad's Army* a dramatic richness that lifted it well above the general run of situation comedies. Among later television roles were Mr Micawber in *David Copperfield* and an Irish priest, Father Duddleswell, in the comedy series, *Bless Me, Father*.

Lowe was in many films as a dependable supporting player, from the classic Ealing comedy, *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, to the more recent, *This Sporting Life*, *If*, *The Ruling Class*, *O Lucky Man* and *No Sex Please, We're British*. There was also a cinema adaption of *Dad's Army*.

He was married to the actress, Joan Cooper, who was appearing with him in Birmingham at the time of his death. He leaves a son and a stepson.

MR TERENCE PARRY

Mr Terence Parry, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union from 1964 to 1981 and chairman of the TUC in 1980, died yesterday. He was 60.

A union leader unusually well liked and respected both among firemen and in the wider Labour movement, he was chairman of the TUC Social Insurance Committee for eight years. he was a resolute advocate of child benefit payments and played a significant role in laying the foundations of the 1974 Act which established the Health and Safety Commission, on which he served, and the statutory rights of workplace safety representatives.

Terry Parry was born in Coniston, in the Lake District. He joined the Merchant Navy as a boy of 15 and served in the Royal Navy in Burma and the Pacific, during the Second World War. He became a fireman in 1946 and became president of the union in 1959. He left the employment of the fire service in 1964 to become general secretary.

The most traumatic episode in the union's recent history began in November 1977 when the firemen's steadily increasing sense of grievance over pay came to a head with conference decision to call the union's first ever official strike, in what amounted to a direct challenge to the incomes policy of Mr James Callaghan's government.

Although instinctively on the left Parry made no secret of his apprehension of what a strike would mean to the fire service. He appealed in vain to delegates to defeat the strike call but when the conference voted by a large majority to reject his advice he accepted the decision immediately and threw himself wholeheartedly into the task of finding a settlement from which firemen could emerge with honour.

The value of the formula which Parry negotiated with the local authority employers was not perhaps as apparent when the strike ended in January as it was soon to become. The firemen had secured the agreement which now links their pay to the upper quartile of male manual workers and which, provided that was preserved intact, Parry believed would remove the need for firemen ever to embark upon a national strike over pay again. He retired as general secretary of the union with his standing among firemen as high as it had ever been.

As chairman of the social insurance committee Parry remained both inside and outside the TUC a sturdy champion of Labour's plan for a child benefit scheme throughout the difficult period of 1976 when a number of senior ministers were ready to abandon it because of fears for its impact on pay policy. He also played an important part in finding a basis for the 1975 Pensions Act which would satisfy both the main political parties.

His great pastime from boyhood was dogs and in his time as a hobby he trained trail hounds greyhounds and whippets. He enjoyed dog racing as a spectator and last year bought a greyhound which in a wry reference to the firemen's pay formula he named "upper quartile".

Parry was a highly successful president of the 1980 Congress, handling debates with considerable style and his characteristic dry wit. He bore in the last few years of his life an illness which caused him at times great pain with cheerful good humour and courage.

He leaves a widow Doris, a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

MR C. Y. TUNG

Mr Tung Chao-Yung, one of the world's most powerful shipowners, known throughout the maritime world as C. Y. Tung, died suddenly on April 15 in Hong Kong. He was 70.

Born in Shanghai in 1911, like many other highly successful businessmen he moved to the British colony when the Communists gained power in China in 1949. From very humble beginnings in Tientsin where he began work as a shipping clerk, he was to build up one of the most powerful shipping empires in the world, second only in size to that of another Chinese to seek sanctuary and success in Hong Kong, Sir Yue-Kong Pao.

Tung, who at the time of his death controlled a shipping fleet of 150 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 11 million tons deadweight, amassed his first fortune in the early post war years by despatching ships to North and South America during a shipping shortage.

It was Tung, together with men like Y. K. Yao and Frank Chao, who developed Hong Kong as a centre of merchant shipping, building up huge fleets in a shrewd and highly competent manner to a size where they now have eclipsed in size, if not flamboyance the fabulously rich Greek shipping dynasties of Niarchos and Onassis.

Tung's empire extended from shipping into banking, insurance, oil exploration and into property development. His influence and power brought him into contact inevitably with London, despite Britain's declining merchant fleet, still a centre for world shipping. In 1970 he bought the former Queen Elizabeth, once the world's largest luxury liner for conversion into the "Seawise University". Sadly his dream of a university on the sea was destroyed with the ship when she caught fire in Hong Kong harbour in January 1972.

Paradoxically it was the expansionist and entrepreneurial skills which characterized the development of Britain's merchant fleet in the Victorian era which Tung deployed so effectively and which in 1980 led to his four partners in the Overseas Containers consortium which had spearheaded the containerization of Britain's liner trades with Africa, Australia and the Far East.

Tung himself had 11 eleven years earlier pioneered Asia's entry into the container era with his own fleet of container ships serving American west coast ports.

Despite his immense wealth, Tung lived frugally and worked extremely hard. His capacity as a linguist as his unquestioned business acumen won him widespread respect. He lives a widow, two sons, three daughters and thirteen grandchildren.

SIR ROY WILSON

Sir Roy Wilson, QC, who from 1961 until his retirement in 1975 was chairman of the Industrial Court (from 1971 known as the Industrial Arbitration Board), died on April 17 at the age of 78.

Although educated in Scotland he come to Oxford from Glasgow University and was called to the English Bar. His career at the Bar was interrupted by war service with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and the DAAG. He returned to practice and was Recorder of Faversham and then of Croydon.

In 1961 he left the Bar to become chairman of the Industrial Court, only its third chairman since 1918. Despite his move from practice he maintained close links with Gray's Inn. He had become a Bencher in 1956 and was Treasurer in 1973.

He not only served as chairman of the Industrial Court but was also called upon to chair many inquiries in the field of industrial relations. He served too for a time on the Race Relations Board.

He made a quiet yet important contribution to industrial relations arbitration. His work was always meticulously thorough and his calm and official manner meant that he kept the respect of those who used his court. He decided many important cases involving in particular the public services. Above all he had a sturdy independence and could not be swayed by the passing fancies and temporary pressures of pay policy. His guiding light was absolute fairness as he saw it and he never sought the limelight of publicity.

Professor Turan Gunes, who was Turkey's Foreign Minister when Turkey invaded Cyprus in 1974, has died of a heart attack during a cruise from Istanbul to Izmir, according to Turkish police sources. He was 61.

Mr. Igor Zemskov, A Russian Vice-Foreign Minister specializing in Scandinavian affairs, died on April 3 at the age of 61.

Lady Palmer, widow of Sir C. Eric Palmer, died on April 1 at the age of 93. She was Gwenllian, daughter of David Jones, of Melbourne, Australia, and she was married in 1910. Her husband died in 1948.

Professor Harold Philip Moon, Professor of Zoology, University of Leicester, 1950-70 and subsequently Professor Emeritus, died on March 26. He was 72.

DR KURT EULENBURG

Dr Kurt Eulenburg, who died on April 10, at the age of 103, had devoted his entire life to the world-famous edition of pocket scores which bears his and his father's name.

Born in Leipzig in 1879, Kurt Eulenburg started in his father's firm in 1905. Ernst Eulenburg, his father, had by then bought the Payne Pocket Scores and Donajowski Edition which formed the basis for the Eulenburg Edition and was enlarging it to include all the Brahms and Dvořák instrumental music and much other music of the time.

Kurt Eulenburg took over the firm at his father's death in 1926. He set about enlisting the help of leading musicologists, such as Einstein, not only to edit new scores but also to revise existing ones. As the political situation in Germany worsened, he founded the London firm of Ernst Eulenburg in 1939, and after spending the war years in Switzerland, Dr. Kurt Eulenburg moved to London. He began steadily to re-build the edition, so that by the time he retired, in 1969 at the age of 90, it had doubled in size and become the most widely-used edition of pocket scores in the world.

Eulenburg is survived by a daughter Gertrud.

Moreover... Miles Kington

The new edition of Roget's Thesaurus, apparently, excludes sexist words such as *mankind* and *countryman* in favour of *humankind* and *country dweller*. The editor has also decided not to include terms with a racist tinge.

I firmly endorse this trend by dictionary-makers to describe language as it should be, not as it is. But there is still a long way to go. If I had my way, the words *black*, *white*, *man* and *woman* would all be eliminated on the grounds of discrimination. One thing we can do immediately is drop that nasty male-oriented word thesaurus, which is only a relic of Latin sexism. Here, accordingly, is a brief extract for your examination from our forthcoming, liberalized *Moreover Thesaurum*.

Man - N, person, chap, bloke; male, chauvinist, pig, typical; gentleperson, a gentleperson's gentleperson, person overboard, person-to-person fighting, person-of-war; Humanchester, Humanhattan, Humanitoba, Isle of Person; batsperson, twelfth person, person-to-person marking, good thinking, Batperson!

Policeperson, Old Bill, persons in blue, cover-up, Operation Country Dweller, scot-free; just, you, wait, see.

Statesman, New Statesperson, editor, editress, bruce, page, new leaf; great, turnstile, small fee, they shall not pass; coote, anna, rupee, indian, ten little oppressed citizens; Marshall, arthur, reactionary, fuddy-duddy, call my bluff, on your bike, order of the boot, good riddance.

Person in the moon, came down too soon, asked her way to Norwich; typical, children's literature, nonsense, harmful, fantasy.

Children, little people, small folk, personette; kids, nannies, rich kindergarten, Wall Street Creche; hobbies, activities, teenage, (see glue); ask, questions, babies, well, darling, mummy's tummy, natural, childbirth, daddy present too; *Guardian* Kids' Page, only, matter, time; classroom, violence, teacher, duffed up, restore cane, taste of lash, cat o'nine tails! sorry, sorry, thinking, out, loud.

Let us now remember famous persons, Little Persons, Person and Superperson, gee whiz Superperson!; *Death in Venice*, by Thomas Personn, Georgia Eliot, Georgette Sand, Debby Harriet, Susan Georgia; a person's a person for a' that, no fury like a person scorned, the proper study of humankind is person; person's nose, Person's Green, Brandy for the Person. Ottoperson Empire.

Gaypersons, ambisexual, bisimilar, unisex, male, female, third world; he, she, it; yin, yang, Jung; Middlesex; no news is Gay News.

Thesaurus, thesaurus and the carpenter, roget, synonymous; sexism, racism, wordism, elitism; man rogets and grieves; roget the loget; Jolly Roget, Sir Roget de Coverley; roget, over and out.

Opera: Giulini's return

Autumnal mastery of Verdi's emotional range

Falstaff

Music Center, Los Angeles

Carlo Maria Giulini this week returned to staged opera. He has been away for 14 years, indication enough of the depth of his distaste for working conditions in the theatre which made him determined to stay only with concert halls and recording studios. His sixties, the time of life when many opera conductors are at their peak, have passed — or almost passed — with only a recording of *Rigoletto* to represent the lyric theatre. And without that *Rigoletto* there would surely have been no *Falstaff* in Los Angeles. It runs until May 1.

If Giulini has become almost a stranger to opera in performance then Los Angeles, the home of his orchestra — the Philharmonic — is in exactly the same state. It is several decades since international-level opera performances have been given here. Absence and abstinence may be good for sharpening the palette, albeit a painful way, and at the end of the performance the audience made it quite clear that they were hungry for opera and for Giulini to conduct it.

For him it was a personal triumph, acknowledged characteristically by only one solo curtain call, a vindication of the decision to take up again almost at the point where he left off. *Falstaff*, for a city deprived of opera, might have been an odd choice, but for Giulini it was the right one. At one point it was almost his visiting card: it was after all the opera with which he made his British debut, at the Edinburgh Festival. The quicksilver quality of Verdi's score, where almost every section seems to be over before it has even begun, has always been close to Giulini's nature. And it is close too, on Tuesday night's evidence, to the soul of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, which under its present conductor has become a highly refined instrument, delighting in delicacy.

At 68 Giulini brings out the reflective meloncholy so often missed in the score. It is an autumnal interpretation, a fact well realized in Ronald Eyre's staging. The farce has been stifled until the approach to the final fugue and, in its place, there is the wry comedy of an old warrior who knows that his best days are well and truly past. He is, in the shape of Renato Bruson, singing his first Falstaff, a solitary figure relying for company on a couple of layabouts, ruffians and mercenaries at the same time, Bardolph and Pistol by name (Francis Egerton and William Wildermann, both excellent).



Renato Bruson's strong, intelligent Falstaff, with Katia Ricciarelli

It is all summed up in the first scene of Act III with Falstaff, muffled up against the dank Thames within him and without him, sitting in the courtyard of the Garter. There is even a kennel: Falstaff is quite close to the doghouse. His monolouge lists everything: he is growing fat, yes fat; his hair is turning grey. *Tutto declino*. The world and Falstaff together are going to pot. Giulini and Bruson handle this passage superbly, with the rumblings of discontent in the orchestra turning into temporary pleasure as the wine does its work. The key to Falstaff's life is that his pleasures are becoming fewer and fewer — there was an earlier orchestral shiver of delight when Ford opened his bag of gold with the instructions "spendetele, spendetele".

Bruson has taken on Falstaff at a time when his voice may well be at its peak; most baritones prefer to leave it until later. The role is sung throughout with a fine fastidiousness and great beauty of tone. He is careful to understate, even when he emerges in his Act II finery, white clothes and a red sash, a giant raspberry ripple with his hat stuck like a wafer on the top. The performance could take a little more verbal bite, especially in the opening scene. But a world short of Falstaffs has acquired a new one of strength, stature and high intelligence.

The Ford, Leo Nucci, could be a Falstaff too one of these days. His voice is almost as well shaped and projected as that of Bruson. But he has been poorly served by his producer, who has turned him into a toothy fellow, the Ken Dodd of Windsor, instead of the jealous and vengeful husband. Indeed the Ford family do poorly and need attention before the production comes lock, stock and full cast to Covent Garden at the end of June. Katia Ricciarelli was oddly ill at ease as Alice, a role which should allow her soprano to soar into the auditorium.

By way of recompense Los Angeles have come up with a delectable pair of lovers in the form of Dalmacio Gonzalez and Barbara Hendricks. They sing and perform as almost in a childlike dreamworld — much relished by Giulini in the pit — which is infinitely preferable to the bitchery and trickery of their elders. Gonzalez, noted in Paris last winter, is probably, with his clean, boyish tones, the finest Fenton since Alva.

The production team, from London, of Ronald Eyre and his designers Hayden Griffin and Michael Stennett, have done a solid job rather than an inventive one. *Windsor Forest* has been more magical and the Garter more evocative, but the Fords are well housed. At few points does the staging go against the conception of human comedy, wry and mellow, which Giulini and Bruson have placed at the heart of this *Falstaff*.

Just what persuaded Giulini back is a matter for future biographers. Ernest Fleishmann, executive director of the L.A. *Philharmonic, must have had an* opera as a gleam in his eye when he engaged Giulini as music director — it is more than that now and he is hoping for two or three productions a year in the mid-Eighties. Gunter Breest, who with his DG team is recording all the Los Angeles performances, certainly played his part when *Rigoletto* happened. What matters is simply that the operatic silence has been broken. Covent Garden will bear *Falstaff* in midsummer and Florence will have it in May next year. Both will be excellent places to be at.

John Higgins

Television

Operational hazard

"Won't a cross do?" asks Bruce Anderson as he is asked to sign the consent form for the transplantation of his new heart. He is reacting violently to the anti-rejection drug, and his hands are shaking, but he manages the signature and subsides to await the heart and the surgeon, Mr Magdi Yacoub. The former is in Yorkshire; the latter in Italy. Bringing them together with Mr Anderson at Harefield is a complicated logistical exercise. It was on this and the transplant operation that Forty Minutes focused last night in "Bruce Anderson's New Heart", the fourth in its series *Heart Transplant*.

It was the first time that the transplant operation had been shown in detail on British television and, though the business of getting heart, patient and surgeon all together in the Harefield operating theatre made for drama, it was not a programme for the squeamish.

Mr Anderson had been prepared for the operation twice before but the donor heart had been judged not to be a proper match. Now one had been found, Mr Yacoub was at an international heart conference in Milan. He had to fly back to Heathrow, be driven to Harefield, and then fly with half the transplant team by helicopter to Yorkshire to collect the donor heart.

The heart can live about three and a half hours outside the body and, in this case, two hours would be taken up by travelling to and from Yorkshire. Despite the potentiality for snags, no one appeared to doubt it could be done and there was an awesome calm about the staff which must have reassured Mrs Anderson, who was seen telephoning her son to tell him that his father had "just gone down for his heart".

At this point the heart seemed somewhat in balance as we had heard one of the staff reporting that Mr Yacoub's plane was running 35 minutes late but, in the event, he made his helicopter to Yorkshire and telephoned to say that Mr Anderson's chest could be opened and that he would be there to perform the transplant in an hour and a half. And so he was, with the cardboard box that held Mr Anderson's best hope of life.

Thereafter it was a sanguinary business with some reassurance in Mr Yacoub's verdict that it was a "beautiful little heart." The calm continued even when blood gushed suddenly and alarmingly upwards. "Don't make a mess, please," he said to an assistant.

The *Forty Minutes* team are to be congratulated on their technique and their stamina. Three, including the producer Louise Panton, were present in the theatre throughout, having scrubbed up like professionals and gone in with their specially sterilized equipment. Mr Anderson, happily, will be seen again in next week's *programme* pursuing his recovery routine. Scrubbing up on this occasion will not be necessary.

Dennis Hackett

Concert

America personified

BBCSO/Bernstein

Festival Hall/ BBC2/Radio 3

Leonard Bernstein's contibution to the bicentenary of America's independence was a work for six voices and orchestra called *Songfest*; it was his portrait of modern America in poetry and music. It has taken six years to reach London in a live performance (by any reckoning, five years too long). On Wednesday the composer conducted its first performance in Britain, making his debut with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

The whole concert was relayed on BBC television, and simultaneously matched with the stereophonic sound of Radio 3, so I decided to watch and listen at home, particularly since the interval talk was by Bernstein, with actors to speak all the fourteen poems set in *Songfest*.

Bernstein has always been lucky in his ideas, unusual, exciting and theatrical — *Fancy Free*, *West Side Story*, *Candide* (a lost cause vociferously defended). *Mass* was more embarrassing, whether or not you have set your face against organized religion, but it still provoked thought, and interest.

Songfest sets out to characterize various aspects of America now, a land of immigrants, of aspiration and love, of persecuted minorities. The grandeur is proud to a fault. The loving centre includes a Whitman poem, most tenderly set, about love of man for man, a fervent example of noble feminism by a Spanish female poet, and a passionate movement not so firmly set, the concrete soft, as it were, in Edna St Vincent Millay's "What Lips".

Television showed us Bernstein introducing the work, which he wanted to be both celebratory and entertaining. He did so in quite relaxed fashion, though on the podium he postures like a man possessed, and pulls faces like the late Sir Malcolm Sargent.

Nobody expects avant garde music from Bernstein. His language is showbiz, sometimes pompously folk-orientated as in the first section, sometimes cool jazz. He can write a good ballad, and does so, for female vocal trio (rather reminiscent of Nicholas Maw's *Scenes and Arias*) in Anne Bradstreet's poem to her husband.

There is a bit of American Armistice music, some black soul, plenty of light-heartedness to leaven the serious lyrical melody which is Bernstein's strength. The orchestral music did not impress as did the vocal music (more than once I heard Bernstein wish that Mahler had composed *The Song of The Earth* for a number of solo singers, though Mahler would have opted for finer textures).

Songfest is an honorable, sincere and ebullient occasional piece. It makes its particular points smartly. Television did them proud, as did such singers as Sarah Walker and Thomas Allen, to name but two who evidently comprehended Bernstein's language naturally. It compares rather clearly with Britten's *War Requiem*, not to Bernstein's advantage.

William Mann

Theatre

Laughter too scarce

The Joke Collector

Playhouse, Liverpool

While I have been able to enjoy most of the work of the new company at the Liverpool Playhouse, I have not been able to enthuse; nor has the company won more than a small share of the youthful Liverpool Everyman audience. Meanwhile, a large portion of the old Playhouse audience seems to have disappeared in the take-over by Liverpool playwrights — perhaps to bingo or greyhound racing.

There is something to enthuse about in *The Joke Collector*, which was once a television play called *Tiny Revolutions*, but it needs those full houses that seem to have disappeared. The play is a collection of jokes cut from the body politic of Czechoslovakia. Many of them are delivered as if to the secret police of Czechoslovakia, but they need the steady contagion of laughter which is hard to achieve from scattered spectators.

Michael Beckham's play is based on the real life of Jan Kalina, a Czech professor of humour who ran a satirical cabaret for 30 years before being imprisoned in the political winter that immediately followed the Prague Spring. It uses Kalina's collection of jokes that satirized the totalitarian regimes of Eastern Europe to tell his story, and the temptation is to retell the jokes to give a taste of the comedy that offended.

"What's two hundred feet long and eats cabbages?" "A Czechoslovakian meat queue." "Czechoslovakia's going to have a navy." "A navy — but the country doesn't have a coastline." "So what, we have a ministry of justice."

The latter joke came to Kalina from his interrogators, who spent six months asking him to explain his jokes, and Voytek's production divides itself between the interrogation, a reconstruction of the cabaret, and Kalina's home life complete with police microphones. It would have benefited from an actor who is more of a comedian than Godfrey Jackman. His professorial approach may be accurate, but the punchlines could use more punch.

The overall production is well acted and witty, but not performed with all the cabaret exuberance that would sharpen the point. Gareth Williams offers a model performance, and more of his sort of work would really *identify* each joke as a little revolution.

Ned Chaillet

Major Barbara

Birmingham Rep

In the way of things *Major Barbara* is always timely. It may no longer be fashionable to think that armaments manufacturers are the masters of the war rather than its servants, as everyone from Bernard Shaw to Leslie Charteris used to suggest, but the manufacture of weapons *is still* a happy hunting-ground for moralists.

Shaw's subversive comedy strikes out against easy liberal assumptions by making a hero of Andrew Undershaft, the millionaire manufacturer of arms. In his notes, Shaw calls him Saint Andrew Undershaft for preaching that the chief evil of the world is poverty. It is the philosophy of a foundling, and the part hinges on the idea that every Andrew Undershaft for generations has been a foundling, adopted and given the name and intelligence while the legitimate son has been disinherited.

Shaw's St Andrew is tempted by an illegitimate child after meeting his children when they have become adults, but the child is Barbara, a major in the Salvation Army, and there is the challenge of Mephistopheles on meeting Faust. While Undershaft sets out to win her soul for his firm, she is looking for souls to bring to God.

As ever in Shaw, the play's action is in thought and argument. Unusually, there is also a scene of sudden brutality, shocking in its brief reality as a man storms in and hits women. Gary Olsen gives that character a rough force that heightens Shaw's portrait of a beast.

Elizabeth Bell serves admirably in Barbara's uniform, a proper challenge for Bill Fraser's Undershaft, and it is Mr Fraser who makes Peter Farago's production so ruthlessly entertaining. He brings to his speeches a rumbling authority, with growls of restrained power. His hands fill the speeches with unscripted action; stroking Barbara's arms on their first meeting, clasping the hands of his estranged wife with undiminished affection, seizing the soft shoulders of his son with parental firmness. The delicacy of his actions contrasts with his natural bulk to make him always the centre of attention in the needlessly elaborate settings.

Ned Chaillet

Cinema

An urgent and chilling conviction

Circle of Deceit (X)

Gate, Notting Hill; Screen on the Green

The World of Gilbert and George

ICA Cinemathèque

Visiting Hours (X)

Classic, Oxford Street

"Never stand still in Beirut", Hanna Schygulla advises *Bruno Ganz's reporter hero* in Circle of Deceit (*Die Fälschung*), the impressive new film by Volker Schlöndorff — his first, indeed, since *The Tin Drum*. The advice is salutary, for this is Beirut in 1975, in the grip of the Lebanese civil war. Explosions, bullets and burning tyres cascade around him as he gathers material for a Hamburg-based magazine in the company of an eager photographer (played by the director Jerzy Skolimowski). Snipers ensconced in the Holiday Inn idly aim their *rifles at street-sellers*; the roads at night become an obstacle course of miniature front lines. Journalists in *Circle of Deceit* are subjected to so many perils that a film critic can only feel awed and humble: the highest peril we face is falling over someone's shopping while finding a seat in the dark.



"Circle of Deceit": Hanna Schygulla fraternizing in Beirut

But the whole film was made in the grip of fear and danger. Schlöndorff's crew were on location in Beirut when the fighting was still close at hand. Extras and explosives were all obtained locally, though blank ammunition for rifles proved harder to track down. Schlöndorff's perseverance has *paid off magnificently*: the scenes of street turmoil convey so much reality that the screen has to carry advance notices telling audiences that "all scenes. . . are totally imaginary".

The confusion surrounding the fighting rings equally true. The world's journalists crowd into their hotel foyer with typewriters, telex machines, conflicting opinions and a babel of languages (chiefly German, French and English; the film carries subtitles). As with his previous films (particularly *Coup de Grace*), Schlöndorff shows a keen eye for the absurd image, the dark irony. A hooded fighter in the Holiday Inn plays Beethoven on a concert grand; a dress-shop mannequin is wheeled across the street after the latest outburst of sniping. As the film surges forward from absurdity to atrocity, one chilling visual refrain emerges: despite all the horrendous damage to buildings and humans, nothing seems to touch the television sets.

Schlöndorff's material comes from a best-selling novel by Nicholas Born, a West German journalist who went to Lebanon in 1977 to test his suspicions that facts were being twisted for the purposes of entertainment. The Bruno Ganz character is his fictional surrogate, but the circle of deceit that traps this journalist also has a personal dimension. He toys with separating from his wife; he becomes tentatively involved with Ariane, an old colleague who married a Lebanese and lives, widowed and childless, in a mansion full of decrepit splendour. The characters' private turmoil helps considerably in raising the film's temperature, for Schlöndorff does have a tendency to fill the screen with grandiloquent, chilly gestures. Hanna Schygulla's performance as Ariane is crucial here: freed from the arid glitter of recent Fassbinder films, she radiates with warmth and approachable beauty.

Circle of Deceit is also notable for avoiding any deceit itself. The nightmare muddle of the Lebanese civil war is never straightened out in the interests of a conventional tidy narrative; the emotional predicaments similarly retain their complexity. All told, few other recent releases can approach the film for urgency, power and importance.

After Schlöndorff's hurly-burly, one might expect peace and quiet from The World of Gilbert and George, which runs at the ICA Cinemathèque until April 24. Gilbert and George, after all, are the British exponents of "living sculpture": they position themselves in art galleries, impeccably dressed in sober suits. From one standpoint, the duo represent a far-flung wing of cultural aesthetics: the materials of art are simply transformed into its very subject — and the ultimate material of every art is the mind and body of the artist. Yet from another standpoint they belong to the grand tradition of Engish eccentricity, gently clowning about with poker faces and whimsical intent.



"Visiting Hours": Lee Grant — as a television journalist — assailed by Michael Ironside

George is tall, with receding hair, glasses and a voice that seems to have leapt from the soundtrack of a Gaumont-British newsreel. Gilbert is shorter and speaks with a slight, disconcerting German accent. This 70-minute Arts Council film, devised and directed by the artists themselves, is most engaging when observing them in action (or inaction), enjoying domestic rituals at their East End home or moving about with exquisite dignity to various pieces of music. They flex their bodies to the song "Bend It" (a wonderfully ridiculous sight); they wriggle on the floor during the hymn "The Day Thou Gavest" (musical symbols of Church and State continually haunt the sountrack). They stand rigid by windows and polished wood, planning to shop for a terracotta vase and an "Arthurian chair". They sit at a table; George gravely helps Gilbert to Leicester cheese and suggests a bizarre evening out: "Let's go to the Clifton and see some waiters".

If their cinematic world were entirely made up of these eccentric ballets and stilted conversations, the film would be comparatively easy to assimilate. But there are other elements involved, and the cumulative result is strangely unsettling. Some of the material is simply impenetrable — like the verbal commentaries hovering just beyond the borders of sense as the camera surveys various flowers or chopped-up food. The hermetic, however, is quickly followed by glimpses of the all-too-public — riverside dereliction, graffiti on corrugated iron, a *drunk on the pavement*. East End youths come before Gilbert and George's camera, trying to describe their own lives. The words have a struggle getting out, but the most popular occupations seem to be playing Space Invaders, watching football, having a laugh and walking the streets. An impression builds up of barren, aimless urban life — though the unsympathetic might argue that Gilbert and George are hardly better employed standing around in art galleries. Still, the world of Gilbert and George, as pinned down on film, is provocative; all collectors of cinematic oddities should pay them a visit.

Last and least is Visiting Hours, a Canadian shocker about a disturbed bulk obsessed with torturing a laughable caricature of a television journalist (played, unfortunately, by Lee Grant, who should know better). The producers were previously involved in the cheeky nightmares of David Cronenberg (*The Brood*, *Scanners*), but the present director — Jean Claude Lord — shows a flair for boring, rather than *scaring*, *his* audiences.

Geoff Brown

Stock Exchange Prices

Trust sale fears

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 29. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, April 19. Settlement Day, April 26.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) April 15	Market rates (close) April 15	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.7515-1.7635	$1.7615-1.7625	0.32-0.42c disc	0.76-0.86c disc
Montreal	$2.1410-2.1546	$2.1510-2.1520	0.43-0.53c disc	1.12-1.32c disc
Amsterdam	4.71-4.74fl	4.72¾-4.73¾fl	2¼-1⅝c prem	6¾-6¼c prem
Brussels	80.20-80.75f	80.65-80.75f	25-40c disc	80-100c disc
Copenhagen	14.41-14.50k	14.45¼-14.46¼k	830-920ore disc	1820-1955ore disc
Dublin	1.2250-1.2360p	1.2345-1.2355p	64-78p disc	190-205p disc
Frankfurt	4.25-4.28m	4.26¾-4.27¾m	1⅝-1¼pf prem	5-4½pf prem
Lisbon	126.50-127.75e	127.25-127.75e	165-355c disc	385-990c disc
Madrid	187.40-188.50p	188.00-188.20p	75-105c disc	200-245c disc
Milan	2336-2350lr	2347½-2348½lr	18-22lr disc	63-67lr disc
Oslo	10.73-10.80k	10.78¾-10.79¾k	500-605ore disc	745-855ore disc
Paris	11.05-11.11f	11.09-11.10f	8-11c disc	24-27c disc
Stockholm	10.46-10.55k	10.53¾-10.54¾k	50ore prem-10ore disc	260-200ore prem
Tokyo	434-440y	437-438y	2.40-2.10y prem	740-695y prem
Vienna	29.80-30.05sch	29.98-30.03sch	12-7gro prem	34-20gro prem
Zurich	3.45½-3.49f	3.47¼-3.48¼f	2¾-2¼c prem	7½-7c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 89.9 down 0.3

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 12¾ Low 11

Week Fixed: 12

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13 1/16	2 months	12⅞
3 months	13 1/16	3 months	12⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅛-12 29/32	1 month	13¾
2 months	13¼-13 1/16	2 months	13⅞
3 months	13 5/16-13⅛	3 months	13⅞
6 months	13¼-13	6 months	13¾

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14¼-14	7 months	14-13⅞
2 months	14¼-14	8 months	14-13⅞
3 months	14¼-13⅞	9 months	14¼-14
4 months	14⅛-13⅞	10 months	14¼-14
5 months	14⅛-13⅞	11 months	14¼-14
6 months	14-13⅞	12 months	14⅛-13⅞

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	13⅞-13¾	6 months	14-13⅞
3 months	13 [illegible]-13 [illegible]	12 months	14-13⅞

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12½	3 months	13⅞
7 days	12¾	6 months	13⅞
1 month	13¾	1 year	13⅞

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12¾-12 Close 13

1 week	12¾-12½	6 months	13 [illegible]-13 [illegible]
1 month	13⅞-13¾	9 months	14-13⅞
3 months	13 [illegible]-13 [illegible]	12 months	14-13⅞

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 14½ 6 months 14¾

Finance House Base Rate 14½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6880-1.6830
Bahrain	0.6620-0.6650
Finland	8.1340-8.1740
Greece	111.10-113.10
Hongkong	10.2110-10.2510
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5045-0.5075
Malaysia	4.1270-4.1570
Mexico	80.10-81.60
New Zealand	2.2990-2.3190
Saudi Arabia	6.0235-6.0535
Singapore	3.7675-3.7975
South Africa	1.8445-1.8595

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4270-1.4285
† Canada	1.2213-1.2216
Netherlands	2.6840-2.6870
Belgium	45.80-45.83
Denmark	8.21-8.22
West Germany	2.4225-2.4235
Portugal	71.50-72.00
Spain	106.80-106.90
Italy	1332.50-1333.50
Norway	6.1200-6.1300
France	6.3000-6.3060
Sweden	5.9650-5.9700
Japan	248.20-248.35
Austria	17.02-17.04
Switzerland	1.9735-1.9770

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8185-0.8188

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14-15; seven days, 15⅛-15¾; one month, 15 [illegible]-15 [illegible]; three months, 15 [illegible]-15 [illegible]; six months, 15 [illegible]-15 [illegible].

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $362.50 (an ounce); pm, $363.25 close, $363-364.

Krugerrand* (per coin): $374-376 (£213-214).

Sovereigns* (new): $87.5-88.5 (£49.90-50.40).

* Excludes VAT

BRITISH FUNDS

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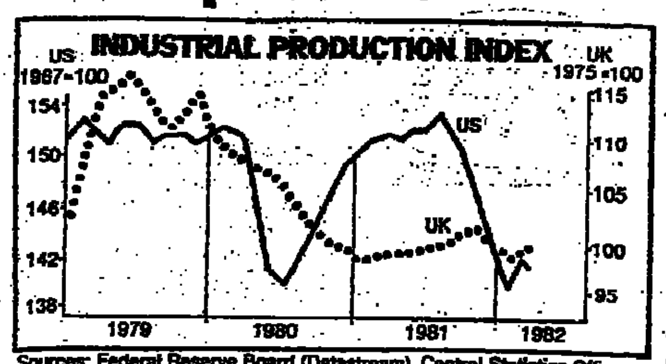
MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

BUSINESS NEWS

US output falls



Sources: Federal Reserve Board (Datastream) Central Statistics Office

United States industrial production declined by a seasonally adjusted 0.8 per cent in March, the Federal Reserve Board said. This follows a revised increase of 1.2 per cent in February and a decline of 2 per cent in January. British industrial production rose by 0.6 per cent in February while January estimates were revised upwards. The United States estimate for February was revised down from 1.6 per cent. Output of United States factories, utilities and mines stood in March at 141.2 per cent of its 1967 average, down 7.2 per cent from a year earlier. Production of business equipment declined by 1.2 per cent after rising 0.3 per cent in February, while consumer goods declined 0.3 per cent last month after rising 1.5 per cent in February.

Car makers to meet

Leaders from British and Japanese motor industries will meet in Tokyo on May 26 and 27 to discuss prospects for Japanese car sales in Britain this year and British market demand.

Meanwhile, President Mitterand of France was to raise the issue of Japan's booming trade surplus in talks with the Prime Minister Mr Zenko Suzuki, yesterday, although he realized that no immediate progress could be made.

World bank dilemma

Members of the International Development Association, the concessionary lending arm of the World Bank, have failed to make their agreed contributions of $4,100m this year, Mr Tom Clausen, World Bank president, said in Lagos, Nigeria, yesterday. Only about $1,500m has been received so far, he said. Mr Clausen called on governments of countries south of the Sahara to raise prices to farmers to encourage food production, which otherwise would fall seriously short of the region's needs.

Profits slump at News Corporation

Net profits of Mr Rupert Murdoch's Australian-based News Corporation tumbled from A$35.6m to A$18.1m (10.8m) in the half year to December 31, reflecting heavy losses in the United Kingdom. These included losses from Times Newspapers, the large trading loss of the newly launched Sunday magazine by the *News of the World* and heavy investment in the circulation of *The Sun*. The dividend is unchanged at 5.5 cents.

● Crude steel production by the British Steel Corporation and independent producers last month fell by 3.9 per cent compared with levels achieved in February. Average weekly production was 327,000 tonnes, which, despite the fall on the previous month, was 6.1 per cent higher than in March last year.

● Discussions between Great Universal Stores and Bradford-based Empire Stores, which could result in a takeover bid by GUS, continued yesterday. Talks are now expected to continue.

MARKET SUMMARY

Liquidation hits prices

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 544.8 down 9.6
FT Gilts 66.59 down 0.31
FT Allshare 314.23 down 4.33
Bargains 15,615

Prices fell steadily through the day after the appearance of several large lines of stock, thought to have come from liquidation at one of the leading investment trust groups. Flemings, Touche and Great Northern Investment Trust are all restructuring.

The lines, mostly of the leaders, were placed, but at discounts to the market price. This, fear of further liquidations, and the placing of the Zilkha stake in Habitat Mothercare, at 131½p against 138p on the previous close, all helped to depress the market. The Falklands crisis, worries of further rises in United States interest rates, and the end of the account, all combined to make jobbers wary of taking stocks on the their books, and institutions nervous of buying.

Gilt prices came back on interest rate worries as sterling stayed relatively steady. Shorts were down around 3/8, most mediums lost 5/8, and longs were also around 5/8 lower.

Among the leaders, GEC was down 14p at 792p, Beecham lost 8p at 224p, BP 8p to 282p, Thorn EMI 10p to 420p, Blue Circle 8p to 450p and Plessey 7p to 363p.

Business was brisker than on Wednesday, but given the lack of market confidence, obtaining buyers could drive a hard bargain. Some encouragement was taken from the view that in these conditions companies will postpone rights issues.

Global Natural Resources fell 15p to 680p, Land Securities dropped 5p to 272p. J B Holdings was 10p lower at 150p. Euroferries slipped 6p to 71½p. Pearl Assurance dropped 14p to 385p, and Imperial Group was 2p lower at 93p.

Other shares to show losses were: Lasmo, down 17p at 322p. Churchbury Estates, down 15p at 625p; Unilever, down 10p at 604p, and Sotheby, down 10p at 285p.

Gains among the more actively traded stocks included Pearson Longman, up 8p at 323p. Rosss were also seen in Metal Bulletin, up 5p at 120p, Associated Book, up 5p at 445p, Husky Oil, up 5p at 375p, and British Sugar, up 5p at 445p. Gold mining stocks were firmer at the end of the day on the firm bullion price after falling earlier.

Richard Clay was one of the special features, rising 5p to 82p on revived bid hopes. Cawoods fell a further 5p as bid hopes there diminish, closing at 251p.

Forward Technology rose 11p to 38p, on lower than expected losses. Hawker Siddeley was down 10p to 288p ahead of next week's figures.

COMMODITIES

● By the close of business last night it looked as though the brief recovery in metal prices had faltered. Cash higher grade copper lost £6 a tonne to £869, and three months was lower by the same amount at £897. Lead, zinc, aluminium and nickel also fell. The only exception among base metals was tin. Purchases by the buffer stock manager helped to push cash metal up by £8 to £7,138 a tonne while three months gained £10 to £7,372.

● Silver, which has recently benefited from the strengthening of gold, fell back. At the bullion fixing the spot price lost 5p an ounce to 425p, and three months silver shed the same amount to 439p an ounce. Dealers expect that silver will weaken further without support from gold.

● Much the biggest advance was made by April cocoa, which gained £20 a tonne to close at £950. But this was largely the result of nearby technical factors, and the May contract was only £1 higher at £973 a tonne. May was tight because a major speculative short position was being unwound in New York.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,120.86 down 60.67
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1,201.26 down 2.55

CURRENCIES

● The pound moved erratically in thin nervous trading but ended on a firm note. The lower trade-weighted index reflected earlier selling.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
$1.7620 up 35 points
Index 89.9 down 0.3
DM 4.2850
Fr. F 11.0800
Yen 437.00
DOLLAR
Index 116.5 up 0.3
DM 2.4233 up 58 pts
GOLD
$363.25 down $1.25

MONEY MARKETS

● Rates tended firmer in a nervous market. The Bank of England bought £793m of bills having forecast a shortage of £750m.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 13%
3 month interbank 13⁵⁄₁₆-13⅞

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 15⁹⁄₁₆-15⁷⁄₁₆
3 month DM 9⅛-9⅛
3 month FR F 23-22½

TODAY

Building societies figures (March); useable steel production (March).

Board meetings — interims — Berry Trust, Linread. Finals — Horace Cory.

Lloyds fears loan default by Argentina

By Anthony Hilton

Argentina is bound to default on loan repayments in the event of a full war with Britain, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank said in London yesterday. This is the first formal statement on the loans by Lloyds Bank, whose subsidiary has substantial interests in the country.

"Everyone is striving to avoid a default so there is little chance that one could be triggered by accident", Sir Jeremy said.

The terms of each loan varied but in general it required a majority of the lending banks to agree before a default could be declared. This implies that Argentina could miss repayments to a number of banks but still avoid being called in default.

Sir Jeremy refused to say how much a default may cost Lloyds, nor how much it had advanced of the £795m syndicated loans in which it is involved. In the event of war the entire portfolio of debt could be in jeopardy. Earlier however, he reassured shareholders at the annual general meeting that the bank could absorb any losses.

Lloyds was deeply concerned with developments in Argentina, he said its subsidiary, Bank of London and South America, has 38 branches and 2,000 staff in that country, and was one of the 10 British firms most deeply involved. The bank has brought out some British staff.

While Argentina was making every effort to meet its obligations to foreign banks, payments were overdue to British banks and more could be expected to fall overdue in the next few days, Sir Jeremy said. He believed the country was paying money owed to Britain into an escrow account in New York but no funds had been received from that source.

Argentina is believed to have a pressing need for new loans but Sir Jeremy did not see this exerting immediate influence on its government.

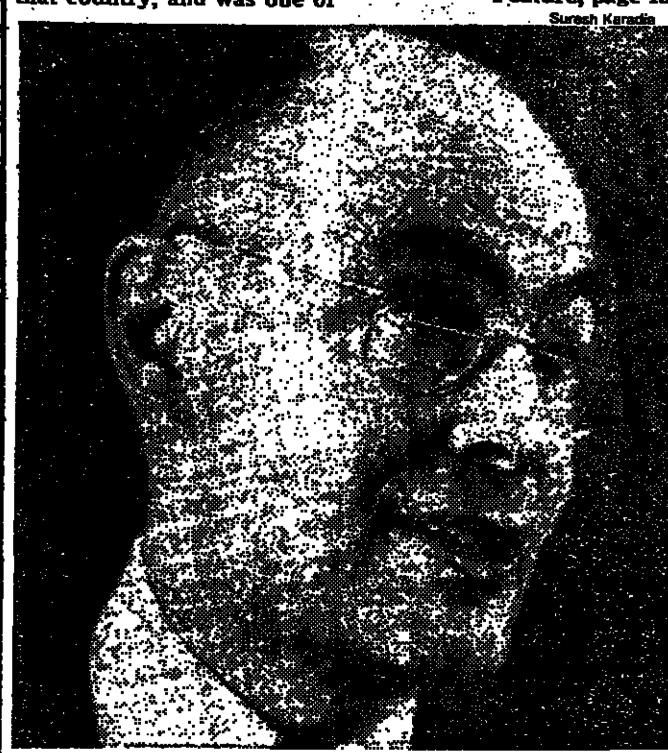
Sir Jeremy also warned against taking too tough a line on Poland. Although the medium-term debt had been rescheduled, the agreement did not cover short-term debt, he said.

☐ Lloyds has arranged more than £250m of finance for the second stage of the Sicartsa steel complex in Mexico being built by the Sheffield company Davy Loewy.

☐ The Department of Trade said yesterday that import licences on goods from Argentina will be issued only when they are authorised by other government departments, or if evidence that the goods are in transit is received by May 7.

Feature, page 13

Suresh Karadia


Sir Jeremy Morse yesterday: sure that Lloyds could absorb losses

£77m industry boost for depressed areas

By Baron Phillips and Jonathan Wills

Public money totalling £77m is to be spent in an attempt to make two of the country's most depressed areas — Liverpool and Motherwell — more attractive to industry and commerce.

Up to £20m will go to financing a speculative office development in the heart of Liverpool, the Department of Industry announced yesterday, while £57m will be injected into the Scottish steeltown over the next five years under a deal signed with Strathclyde Regional Council and the Scottish Development Agency.

Through the English Industrial Estates Corporation £1m has been spent on acquiring the old five acre Exchange Station and hotel site from National Car Parks, which has owned the site since August 1980.

This is regarded as the first major Government initiative in helping to revitalize Merseyside since Mr Michael Heseltine, Environment Secretary, toured the city with key businessmen and institutions directly after the Toxteth riots last summer.

It is also a significant advance for the corporation which is better known for the construction of factory and industrial buildings in the country's depressed areas.

In Motherwell, the SDA is putting £37m into the fourth big project it has announced in the past three months. The region will contribute £14m and the district £6m.

The aim is to create 3,000 permanent jobs in new and refurbished factories. A massive scheme of environmental improvements will transform decaying areas. New roads, sewers and waterworks will be built.

Existing firms, new companies and incoming industries will be offered ready-made factories and workshops, backed up by a package of financial and advisory services.

Workforces opt for management buyouts

Maxwell rescues newspaper

FINANCIAL WEEKLY

INSIDE De Lorean rent-a-car hits a bump | Dutch plan

Last week's "final" issue — but a relaunch is now planned

By Margareta Pagano

Financial Weekly, closed last week by Fleet Holdings, has been saved by Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communication Corporation with the involvement of journalists who will put up part of the finance.

A deal has been quickly put together. Four key journalists, including the new editor, Mr Ray Heath, promptly approached Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bankers, to mount a management buyout. It is hoped that the publication will be on sale next Friday.

Mr Maxwell's group is believed to be paying £200,000 and the journalists together are staking £50,000 on the newspaper's future. They will take 24.9 per cent of the equity, which will be made up of convertible preference shares in a separate company under BPCC. The scheme is open to all staff.

All the 54 staff will receive redundancy payment under their contracts with Fleet Holdings with the 20 journalists collecting nine months' pay. Under the deal the staff has been slimmed down to 28 employees with the number of editorial staff down to 13.

Financial Weekly, started by Trafalgar House, owners of the *Daily* and *Sunday Express*, under the wing of former Punch editor Mr William Davis in 1979, has been losing about £1m a year on a circulation of some 17,000, and 60,000 copies distributed free. Last year it joined with *Accountants Weekly* magazine.

Mr Stephen Hugh-Jones, the former editor, is still away on holiday and it is believed that he does not yet know of the closure. Mr Ron Hobbs, of BPCC, is the company's new chairman, and Mr Tom Lloyd is acting managing director.

Mr Maxwell said last night he was quietly optimistic about the newspaper's future and believed it could break even this year and be making profits next year. "To start with we shall stop giving away free copies. The staff are very determined to make it a success and this has impressed me", he said.

Fire engine makers saved

A Cheshire company with a worldwide reputation for building fire engines has been saved from going out of business by the workforce.

Workers at the Cheshire Fire Engineering company in Winsford, due to close later this month, are backing the formation of a new company launched by four senior managers.

Thirty of the 100 strong workforce have invested their redundancy money in Saxon Special Vehicle Bodies, the new company, buying £1 workers preference shares raising in excess of £20,000. The four managers now directors of the new company have raised £30,000 between them.

They have bought the design drawings from the parent company lorrybuilders ERF of Sandbach.

US acts to protect savers

From Bailey Morris, Washington, April 15

In a move reminiscent of the 1930s, the United States Governmnt has seized control of a huge California savings and loan association after nervous depositors withdrew more than $70m (£40m) in one week.

The unprecedented takeover, described as a "Nationalization" by members of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, was necessary to prevent the savings institution from going under.

Accordingly, the government has declared insolvent the Oakland-based Fidelity Financial Corporation, parent company of Fidelity Savings and Loan Association, one of America's largest building associations with deposits of more than $1,400m.

This is the first time the Government has had to take control of a savings and loan association to protect the assets of its depositors.

The association's problems really began during the period from 1978 to 1980 when it launched an aggressive lending policy making fixed-rate mortgage loans at rates of 11 per cent and 12 per cent.

When interest rates failed to decline, as Fidelity's management had expected, the association was forced to borrow short-term money at rates of 18 per cent and above to fulfil its loan commitments.

The result was that Fidelity Financial, its parent company, reported an operating loss last year of $56.9m, despite its recorded assets of about $2,930m.

Then rumours of the association's plight began to circulate widely to the point that Fidelity's stock, which had traded at $14 a share just two years ago, plunged to $2 a share before authorities halted trading last Monday.

At the beginning of April, auditors said in an annual report to Fidelity's shareholders that they doubted "the continued existence" of the association. Analysts described the report as "the kiss of death".

This triggered a run on deposits which during the week of April 5 amounted to withdrawals of $70m.

Meanwhile, Fidelity's management was frantically seeking to merge with another association in an effort to save the institution but when these efforts appeared to fail, federal officials took over.

Housewife image rejected by women

By Felicity Jones

Advertisements which show women living modern, independent and varied lifestyles are more likely to sell a product than those which present the traditional, housewife image.

This was the finding of a survey carried out by Lancaster University's Department of Marketing to discover the relative marketing effectiveness of the "liberated" and "traditional" approaches to the portrayal of women in advertising. The research was carried out for the Equal Opportunities Commission which largely funded the survey with help from the advertising agencies.

A panel of judges representing advertising agencies and women's organizations helped to select four advertising campaigns. Three of these were television commercials for Camay soap, Persil Automatic washing powder and Nairn contour Wallcoverings and the fourth was a print advertisement for the *Daily Mail*.

Each product was tested in its "liberated" and "traditional" forms. The Nairn Contour Wallcovering advertisement, for example, showed a young attractive woman in a bathrobe stepping out of the shower to congratulate her husband who was doing the wallpapering while the second version showed a young woman in jeans hanging it herself.

The advertising industry has been criticized for failing to reflect that only 5 per cent of households have a working husband, a wife who does not work outside the home and two dependent children and that 54 per cent of mothers with children now go out to work.

The alternative advertisements were shown to more than 600 women in Britain covering all age and social groupings.

The research study's significant finding was that where two types of advertising were used for a brand, the advertisement which showed women in a less restricted, modern role was consistently more effective. This was true for all women, whatever their age and occupation.

Dr Robert Hamilton, who led the University research team, said: "The best combination we found for an advertisement was the modern, liberated role which was protrayed realistically. The image which fared worst was that of the housewife tied to the kitchen sink, which was portrayed unrealistically."

Kuwaiti attack on Lonrho

By Philip Robinson

Gulf Fisheries, the United Kingdom investment group controlled by the Kuwaiti Royal family, is to attack the performance of companies bought over the last four years by Lonrho, the trading conglomerate, of which it owns 15 per cent. Their criticism will be detailed in a letter to shareholders expected next week.

It is part of a move to prevent the group, headed by Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, from raising its borrowing limits by 50 per cent to £1,464m for further expansion. Gulf argues that there is sufficient scope for this within its existing debt limits of which Lonrho still has £387m unused.

Lonrho proposed to raise the limits at its annual meeting earlier this month, but Gulf insisted that all shareholders should vote on the issue rather than only those who attended the meeting.

The poll date has been set for April 30 and Lonrho said yesterday that a significant part of its activities is trading, which entails holding substantial stocks for resale, financed by acceptance credits.

It said such trading activities are highly profitable and that it should be allowed to expand in this area unimpaired by borrowing limits.

Over the last four years the group has expanded outside Africa by acquisition and, Lonrho said, benefits are not reflected in the accounts over such a short period.

Gulf says that four years is long enough for attributable profits to show through.

Slight recovery in industrial production

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Industrial production rose by 0.6 per cent in February to stand at 99.9 compared with a 1975 level of 100. Manufacturing output rose by 1.7 per cent, according to the Central Statistical Office, which revealed that it had revised upwards its estimates for industrial production in January. This is now set at 99.3 (1975=100) compared with an earlier estimate of 98.6.

The figures for the first part of this year were affected by bad weather and rail strikes, but they suggest that in the three months to February, output was down about 1 per cent from its level in the previous three months. The underlying level was above the low point reached in Spring 1981, but well below the level recorded in the autumn of last year.

The figures are likely to disappoint ministers who had hoped for a strong recovery in output in February.

These hopes were influenced by indications that the steel industry was doing particularly well, something which has been confirmed by the latest figures. But other manufacturing industry, apart from the food sector, showed at best sluggish growth. As a result of depressed output at the turn of the year, manufacturing production was 2 per cent down in the three months to February, compared with the previous three months.

Energy industries found their output moving in the opposite direction to that of the manufacturing sector. In December and January their output was boosted by demands of the cold weather and in February the milder days cut down total demand for their products.

Bank lending expands

By John Whitmore

Bank lending to the private sector continued to expand last month, rising by a further £2,094m, according to the Bank of England.

Part of this rise in lending will, however have been to finance the payment of taxes still owing as a result of civil servants' dispute last summer. About £75m of this was paid over last month.

This in turn helped to improve government finances and the Central Government was estimated to have been in surplus by £53m in the four weeks to March 17.

In addition, the Government sold £1,422m of debt outside the banking system. Overall, the public sector had a contractionary impact on domestic credit of £1,723m.

The Government's finances in the period were also helped by the £64m raised by the Amersham International sale and some £200m from the Trustee Savings Banks' refinancing of export credits.

The rise in sterling M3 is confirmed at 0.2 per cent, but revised seasonal adjustments may eventually raise this figure and correspondingly lower the January and February figures.

Business Editor, page 13

British Gas and Government fail to agree

Stalemate over Wytch Farm sale

By Johnathon Davis, Energy Correspondent

British Gas is still at loggerheads with the Government over the enforced sale of the corporation's 50 per cent stake in Wytch Farm, Britain's largest onshore oil field, even though the disposal was meant to have been completed by the end of last month.

The Department of Energy has been studying British Gas's proposed offer for sale document for five weeks, but a number of key issues remain to be settled. The discussions also involve Lazards, who are advising British Gas, and S G Warburg, advising the Government.

Among the sticking points are:

● British Gas's proposal that offers for the Dorset field should be invited without specifying how the purchaser should pay for the stake. While the Treasury is naturally keen to raise hard cash from the sale, the corporation has not ruled out swopping its Wytch Farm interest for an oil company's gas properties in the North Sea.

● A dispute about whether companies wishing to bid should pay for a geological and economic evaluation report of the field by the London based independent consultants, Energy Resource Consultants — and if so how much. British Gas is believed to want to charge bidders more than £50,000 each just to have a sight of the report. This is to avoid giving away valuable geological information cheaply.

● British Gas's desire to continue as operator of the field even after it has sold out its equity interest. This could be done on a contract basis. Alternatively, the new operator of the field might be urged to employ British Gas's employees in Dorset.

The issue of the price tag to be affixed to Wytch Farm has still to be resolved. The unpublished report by the consultants ERC is reliably understood to take a more conservative view of the field's potential than British Gas itself has done.

The corporation, which is bitterly opposed to the sale, believes the Wytch Farm licence contains 221 million barrels of proven reserves, with another 128 million barrels of possible reserves on so far undrilled structures near the main reservoir. ERC is more sceptical about this additional potential.

While British Gas is planning to stick to its £450m valuation (and hopes to publish a separate report saying why it is more optimistic than the consultants), oil companies are unwilling to pay much more than £200m for the corporation's interest. The Government's problem is that, after the furore over the sale of shares in Amersham International, it is sensitive to charges of selling off national assets at knockdown prices.

The earliest that the offer document can now be published is probably the end of next month.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Taylor Woodrow results fall short of expectations

£4m setback overseas hits profits

Taylor Woodrow disappointed the market with its final pretax profit figure for 1981. Against expectations of about £26m, an improvement on the 1980 figure of £24.8m, the international construction and property group again announced £24.8m. The dividend is 13.157p net, making the equivalent of 23.296p gross, the same as last year (Sally White writes).

Although there had been fears for developments in Nigeria or the Far East, the City had not been expecting the £4m deficit on the group's share of a loss on a road contract in Trinidad. Taylor Woodrow, which is suffering the loss because of work being done by an associate, is pursuing substantial claims on the contract. The group believes it has made conservative provisions, and will not be drawn at this stage about hopes of any recouping of the money.

Given the wide spread of Taylor Woodrow's international engineering and contracting interests, analysts believe that even in this difficult state of the international economic cycle the group should be able to at least maintain profits. Adding back the £4m, that gives hopes of £28m for this year. The rating would be just over 13 times, which is higher than other building and construction groups because of the property interests.

The company's reaction to questions on the state of business this year sound rather more optimistic.


Richard Puttick: some bright spots

"The situation for the industry is that there are one or two bright spots here and there. But these are early days," said Mr Richard Puttick chairman and chief executive.

The United States and Nigeria both have resilient economies, he pointed out. So perhaps it would be wrong to be too gloomy about prospects, even though interest rates continue to be relatively high.

Even in the United Kingdom, where analysts are saying that the Budget moves to boost the construction industry will have virtually no effect on Taylor Woodrow, Mr Puttick refuses to see the picture as entirely dreary.

However, he is looking at the order picture as well as profits, and some of those orders that are continuing to come through will take some time to end up in the pretax profits.

One factor in construction companies' favour i their costs. The depressed state of the industry has forced raw material and plant hire suppliers to offer very competitive prices.

On the property side, investors are still waiting for news of a tenant for Information House which, with its high rate bill, is a drain on Taylor Woodrow.

Initial reaction in the market was to mark the shares down to 500p from 525p, at which level they yield 3.8 per cent.

Smarting from winter shock

Combined English Stores Group, the specialist retailers whose interests include the Harry Fenton menswear chain, Salisbury handbags, the Collingwood jewelry outlets and Mercado carpet wholesaling, brought out final results yesterday that bore the scars of the winter weather (Derek Harris writes).

"The bad weather at Christmas cost us £1m in profits and threw us totally off course," Mr Murray Gordon, chairman said. Pre-tax profits at £2.682m were down 16.5 per cent on sales of £96.674m that had slid 9.6 per cent.

The final dividend is 1.66p, giving an unchanged dividend for the year of 3.15p.

The results were not as good as expected. This time last year Mr Gordon was looking to profits of around £4m. At the half way pre-tax profits had reached £116,000 compared with £380,000 losses in the previous first half.

But CES has also had to take on board this time £197,000 in expenses and interest costs from the group's latest acquisition, last November, of the Cheshire-based Eurocamp Travel.

Eurocamp's pre-tax profit of £840,000 for 1981, up nearly 40 per cent, has not benefited the group profits this time but will come through in the new first half. Bookings for this year are ahead of last, Mr Gordon said.

"We had high hopes until Christmas. The group is now slimmed down to mainstream activities. We are ready to take advantage of any upturn in consumer spending but business conditions are pretty rough at the moment."

If trading stays tough the group should still produce reasonable profits this year, he added.

At Scrimgeour Kemp Gee, Mr Geoffrey Carr analyst is looking this year to around £2m trading profits, with in addition the group's property dealing operations likely to continue at current profit levels (£1.416m this time to the end of January).

That would mean an earnings per share of 1.7p, with a yield at 37p a share running at 12.7 per cent. "This is a trading stock. Look to sell on a yield of 10 per cent and buy at 15 per cent," Mr Carr said.

There has been speculation that CES may not have finished selling off loss-making operations and the Fenton menswear chain in undoubtedly the biggest remaining problem. But losses have been cut from £1m to half that this past year and CES is looking to a new-broom effect from Mr Mark Latham just attracted in to run Fenton from his job as merchandise director of Burtons.

Surprise over brick profits

Given the depressed state of the house building business last year, analysts are scratching their heads over London Bricks 1981 profits, Drew Johnston writes.

The figure touched £11.1m, up £1m on forecasts, and though this is down on pre-recession profits of £14m in 1979, it helped bolster the share price.

The shares rose 1½p to 87p before settling down to 86½p.

Another factor in the company's favour was the increase in dividend from 3.76p gross to 4.5p gross giving an annual 6.98/gross against 6.24p/last time, and a yield of 7.2 per cent. Sales were up from £123m to £127m.

Brokers indicate that though the share is closely tied to the housing construction cycle and is likely to move up — to as much as 100p over the next few months — "it is not a stock to be caught in when the music stops".

Unit costs are believed to be substantially down on last year. One awkward factor however is an expected price increase, which has not so far been announced. Another issue is the growing interest of house builders such as Barratts, in timber frame construction. Forecasts for the current year's profits are around £15m.

A subsidiary, London Brick Landfill which fills worked-out clay pits with domestic waste, and has two big contracts with the Greater London Council, also increased its contribution to profits by an estimated £200,000 during the year.

INTERNATIONAL



JAPAN

Sharp fall in orders for ships

Foreign orders for Japanese ships fell by 70.8 per cent to 172,000 gross tons in March compared with a year earlier, bringing total orders for the year to March 31 to 4.14tons, the lowest for three years, the Japan Ship Exports Association said.

The 1981 order totoal was for 253 ships compared with 266 in fiscal 1980 and a peak 294 in fiscal 1979.

● Japan has been offered $350m (£199m) worth of raw materials and manufactured goods from 10 nations and its emergency import financing programme, Finance Ministry officials said.

The government inaugurated the scheme in January to lend short-term funds through both Japanese and foreign banks in Japan to try to reduce the nation's trade surplus by boosting imports.

FRANCE

The number of unemployed in March stood at a seasonally adjusted 1.97m, an increase of 0.7 per cent from February, according to Labour Ministry figures. The adjusted total for March is 18.4 per cent above that recorded a year ago and represents roughly 8.5 of the active workforce.

● The European Commission is studying a request from France for a temporary ban on imports of certain Turkish textiles, a spokesman said. France's imports of Turkish under-shirts rose by 87 per cent in 1981 and imports of Turkish shirts by 255 per cent.

● The number of corporate bankruptcies, liquidations and legal settlements in France rose to a seasonally adjusted 1,476 in March from 1,342 in February but was below January's 1,708, the National Statistics Institute reported.

HONGKONG

The Financial Secretary, Mr John Bremridge, has lowered his estimate of the 1981 government budget surplus to HK$6,900m (£660m) from HK$7,700m. The reason, he said, was because of HK$800m shortfall in expected revenue.

For the year ended March 31, he said, total revenue was estimated now to have been HK$34,000m, with spending at HK$27,100m.

● A four-man declaration from the European Commission will arrive over the weekend for talks on the renewal of the bilateral textile agreement. These discussions are preliminary to the main negotiations in Brussels in June on renewal of the agreement between the EEC and Hongkong.

UNITED STATES

The ailing aluminium industry may push for labour cost concessions from the United Steelworkers Union when for the two sides meet for discussions on April 22, industry anslysts said yesterday.

●Early April sales of American cars fell by 18.2per cent rom depressed year levels. The five United states companies sold 133,502 cars in the first 10 days of the month the fewest sold in the period for 24 years.

WEST GERMANY

West German retail sales in February were a provisional 6 per cent down in volume from February 1981, compared with falls of 7 per cent in January and 1 per cent in December. Largest falls were in coal and oil products, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.

SPAIN

Spain paid $1,740m (£986m) for imported crude oil in the first two months of this year, 29 per cent less than a year earlier. A total of 7.52m tons were unloaded compared with 8.8m tons in the first two months of 1981.

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

Argentina: fear of default

Already fearing default on massive loans to Poland and Romania, international bankers are now suffering sleepless nights over their exposure to Argentina. The Falklands crisis has again raised the spectre of a default by a major international borrower leading to chaos in international capital markets.

As the confrontation between Britain and Argentina moves towards its climax, the world's financial institutions, including banks which have lent Argentina \$32,000m (£18,000m), are doing all they can to ensure that — if possible — the Falklands confrontation does not upset the world of international finance.

Damage has already been done both to London's standing as a financial centre and to Argentina's creditworthiness by the freezing of Argentinian assets in Britain. But this is insignificant compared to the affects of a default.

Hence the recent visit to New York by Argentine officials to reassure American bankers that Argentina will contine to make payments on its huge foreign debts. Despite suspending payments to banks in Britain the Argentines have indicated they will continue to repay non-British banks in syndicates involving British banks and will make payments into a so-called escrow account in New York as a holding house for payments to British banks. The British banks will not get the money until the dispute is settled, but it would mean that Argentina is prepared to honour its debts.

Meanwhile the United Kingdom authorities, despite freezing \$1,400m of Argentine assets held here and restricting any new credit to Argentina from London banks, stress that they do not want to push Argentina into formal default. Banks in the United Kingdom have \$5,800m worth of claims against Argentina so there is much at stake.

Lead managers on Argentine loans 1979-81

	No of loans	Amount (US \$m)
Lloyds Bank	12	795
Amsterdam-Rotterdam	4	437
Deutsche Bank	4	339
Citicorp	9	313
Bank of Tokyo	12	293
Midland/Crocker	8	269

Source: Euromoney Syndication Guide


General Galtieri: looking for \$7,000m this year

It is doubtful whether Government-imposed restrictions on banking with Argentina have had much affect. Credit to Argentina has dried up but that probably has more to do with Aregentina's invasion of the Falklands and the resulting uncertainties than the British Government's clampdown on lending and assets freeze.

Against a background of worsening economic experience in the Latin American continent, Argentina's credit rating had been deteriorating anyway and it has therefore been paying more for its loans.

The dalays over the \$200m Eurocredit for Segba, the Argentine electrical utility, and growing list of defections among the banks involved, is an indication of the reluctance of banks in the present climate to commit more money to Argentina. The Segba loan will be discussed by bankers in New York today and further delay appears certain.

With external borrowing needs of about \$7,000m in 1982 to help service its existing loans, Argentina faces serious problems if it is shut out from international capital markets. Its reserves are low at about \$5,300m of which nearly a third is locked in London and the import ban by the EEC will reduce its foreign exchange earnings.

Whatever the outcome of the Falklands crisis, Argentina will continue to suffer. The episode will have thrown a spanner in the works of the hardline economic programme masterminded by Economy Minister Dr Roberton Alemann. The main plank of this was to reduce inflation by cutting government spending and thus the need to print money. But military expenditure to cover the invasion will make it harder than ever to reduce the government deficit and affect much reduction in the 130 per cent inflation rate of 1981. This will not be overlooked by international bankers if and when the present problem is solved.

The American rather than the British banks are the big lenders to Latin America. But Argentina is an exception and Lloyds Bank especially is deeply involved.

Apart from having 38 branches in Argentina producing about £10m a year in profits and with a net worth of about £40m, Lloyds has been a big lender in the syndicated credit field. The table, showing Lloyds as lead manager on 12 loans worth \$795m to Argentina over the past three years, is a useful but imperfect guide of banks' exposure to Argentina; imperfect because lead managers do not necessary take much of the loans they arrange on to their balance sheets.

Instead they often like to collect the management fees for arranging the loan and then syndicate a large part of it to other banks. In some cases it is conceivable that that the lead manager carries practically none of the loan on its own balance sheet.

Nevertheless Lloyds would suffer badly in the event of a formal default, as would Midland with its subsidiary Crocker. According to one analyst's estimate, the exposure of the British clearing banks — ex-Crocker and Lloyds's domestic lending in Argentina — could be between \$500m to \$700m.

Providing Britain and Argentina do not find themselves at war, it is most unlikely that any banking syndicate would decide to precipitate a formal default and ask the agent bank to accelerate the loan as happened during the freeze on Iranian assets. But it could conceivably happen; Lloyds Bank admitted yesterday that payments on some loans were already overdue.

However, even where one bank in a syndicate wants to precipitate a default, it can often be outvoted by other banks involved and for the moment there is no sign of anybody wanting to take such drastic action. As with Poland and Romania, there is too much to lose, and little to be gained.

"The atmosphere is very different to the Iranian freeze when everybody was grabbing what they could. It's being handled on the basis that there will be a political solution and the banks will be paid," said one international banker.

The Bank of England seems to have played its part with characteristic pragmatism and flexibility trying to reach an accommodation between what was legally possibly, the aims of the sanctions and the possibility of damage to British interests.

But the authorities accept that London's reputation as an international financial centre will suffer. Others feel the danger has been overplayed. As one banker said: "Everyone said there would be damage to New York because of the Iranian freeze, I wonder".

Peter Wilson-Smith

Business Editor

Industrial output disappoints

At first sight the latest set of industrial production figures are very gloomy for the Government. At a second sight they are slightly gloomy.

Output rose in February from its January level by 0.6 per cent, considerably less than most people had expected given the disruption caused by snow.

But the January figures have now been revised upwards from the first indications given last month.

But after taking account of the fact that January turns out to have been considerably better than first thought, the latest figures show no signs of sustained recovery yet.

Both January and December were affected by very severe weather, yet the February figures show only a 0.6 per cent rise for total production. Manufacturing output went up by 1.7 per cent in February, a much more healthy performance, but it was still below the level recorded in September and October last year. Only metal manufacture and the food, drink and tobacco sectors recorded big rises.

The pause in recovery in the early part of this year was predictable and predicted. Consumer goods sales are slowing down and restocking shows no signs of getting firmly under way. But prospects for later this year ought to be considerably better. Any world recovery on the back of falling oil prices ought to help our exports, and restocking should be making a significant contribution to demand by them.

The cloud in this otherwise bright sky remains, of course, the possibility of interest rates in the United States staying high.

But one must assume that such fine considerations would hardly be relevant if war was to break out in the south Atlantic. Then the probability must be that interest rates would quickly suffer a crisis hike.

Meanwhile, the full March money supply figures are much as expected, with the public sector proving a major contractionary influence on credit expansion and bank lending to the private sector rising by £2,090m. With an estimated £1,500m to £1,750m of back taxes still to be collected, the authorities still have something of a cushion. A cushion they may need if funding becomes difficult in the next few weeks.

Markets
Nervous times

Markets showed an understandable lack of interest in yesterday's full money supply figures for the March banking month.

Attention was much more fully concentrated on what was going on across the ocean, and the feeling was distinctly more jittery than for some days. Down went sterling, apparently to find official support around the \$1.753 level, before subsequently recovering; and up edged interest rates.

In money markets the Bank of England's Band 1 intervention level has remained anchored at 13.25 per cent, but the yield curve out to three months, strongly negative not to go so long ago, is starting to flatten out. That still leaves the Bank plenty of scope to allow rates to edge higher without disturbing base rates, particularly with the seven-day interbank rate still below 13 per cent.

This may be relevant so long as uncertainty remains over the Falklands situation and, perhaps, if the worsening expectations for United States money supply prove correct.

RTZ
Dividend peg

Rio Tinto-Zinc (RTZ) is putting a brave face on the sharp fall in attributable profits last year from £155m to £102m.

Interest rates, oil prices and inflation could all decline this year, the company says, and RTZ should respond quickly to a rise in metal prices, particularly copper. But there are many indications that this will be another difficult year for what nevertheless remains one of the world's most successful mining companies.

First, profits in 1981 were bolstered by an exceptional performance by Borax and by the weakness of sterling. It might be unwise to depend on either factor this year. Borax contributed about half of profits, the first time that copper has not been the company's biggest earner.

Exchange rates, it must be admitted, confuse the whole picture. But they in turn accounted for about half the increase in Bronx's profits; and without the stronger dollar, whose average for 1980 was \$2.39 to the pound compared with \$1.91 in 1981, group sales in local currency terms would have been flat.

Metal prices are the second problem. RTZ's copper production still runs at more than 90 per cent of capacity and prices are above the company's undisclosed break-even point. Lornex and Palabora are profitable, a fair achievement when Phelps Dodge is closing mines. But in spite of the recent slight improvement on the London Metal Exchange, the prospect this year is poor.

Perhaps this is why an increase of £20m to £186m in profits after extraordinary items was insufficient to persuade the directors to recommend an increase on the total dividends of 22.9p gross paid the previous year. The company has, over £30m in recoverable ACT to savour once it has fully absorbed Tunnel Cement and Thomas Ward and sees UK profits rising. But one has to be guarded about the overall prospect for 1982.

Experiments in chip chat

TECHNOLOGY: COMPUTER SPEECH

By Clive Cookson

"User friendliness" is one of the catchwords most favoured by today's computer salesmen. It means that people do not need months of training to communicate with the machine.

But all information still has to be fed in through a terminal keyboard — and that is bound to intimidate someone who is completely untrained.

The really friendly machines of the future will have to accept input spoken to them in the user's normal language. They will have to speak back rather than flash answers on to a display screen or spew out printed paper. Many of the mass applications foreseen for computers — such as "expert systems" which the public can consult about anything from train times to medical advice — require them to carry out spoken conversations.

Electronics laboratories around the world are currently experiencing a surge of interest in voice technology.

Japan has made speech recognition a major goal of its now famous programme to develop a "fifth generation" of intelligent computers for the 1990s.

Several British institutions, public and private, are also in the forefront of voice research.

The most advanced product demonstrated yet in this country is Logos, a speech recognition system developed jointly by the Government's Joint Speech Research Unit (JSRU) and the computer firm Logica.

The first commercial version of Logos is due to be delivered next month to British Telecom's Martlesham research laboratory. It will be used in experiments into the recognition of spoken commands over the phone — an investigation that might lead eventually to BT's electronic telephone exchanges being given a (very limited) capability to converse with subscribers who need help with a call.

Logos has a maximum vocabulary of 2,000 words and can recognize continuous speech at natural conversational pace. However, like all rival systems, it has several severe limitations.

Firstly, Logos can use its full vocabulary only if the speaker limits himself to the rules of grammar and syntax which the system is programmed to accept. Without the help of these special rules, Logos could not recognize more than 300 words.

The second restriction — and again it is common to rival systems — is that each new user must "train" the machine to recognize his own particular vocal patterns before it will work for him. Mr Jeremy Peckham, Logos manager at Logica, says the system could recognize only about 20 words without any prior training.

The electronic generation of speech—known generally as speech synthesis—is much simpler than the reverse process of speech recognition, because the human listener copes with most voice abnormalities using his full knowledge of context, syntax and so on. But no machine can interpret the full unquantified subtleties of human language.

During the 1970s several cheap speech generators were developed. The best known is the synthesizer on a single silicon chip, which Texas Instruments incorporated in the Speak and Spell educational toy.

National Semiconductor is another successful manufacturer of speech synthesizer chips. They cost £23 each for quantities of 100 or more chips with a vocabulary of 144 words (with big reductions for very large quantities) or £40 each for 274 words. Chips of this sort, are being incorporated on new products ranging from talking lifts ("This is the third floor") to cars ("Please fasten your seat belt").

But, as a National Semiconductor spokesman said: "We realize that such devices will not really take off in the marketplace until we have speech recognition to go with synthesis." The company is reportedly close to developing a speech recognition chip (though it is bound to be very expensive initially and limited to a few words of vocabulary).



Stephen Johnson

The first commercial speech recognizer was introduced by Threshold Technology, an American company, in the mid 1970s. It and a few rivals now satisfy a narrow specialized market where the limitations — a small vocabulary of less than 100 words which have to be enunciated clearly, one at a time, by a single specified speaker — are acceptable. An example is quality control, where the inspector uses both hands to examine the goods and his voice to tell a computer the results of the inspection.

These first generation devices analyse the sound of each individual word, breaking it down into a series of around 10,000 digits and comparing their pattern with model words in the computer's memory. The one that fits most closely is "recognized". But this laborious process only works when the speaker pauses between each word.

To follow natural speech, where many words run into one another or even get swallowed completely, the machine cannot rely on pattern recognition alone. It must have a knowledge of grammatical structure, and know which words are more or less likely to precede which others

Continuous speech recognition is being investigated also by several other groups in the United States, Europe and Japan. In this country, the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) in Teddington is working on the basic technology, using a model avionics system (for example, "Set height 20,000ft."). The first commercial fruits of the research will be enjoyed by the 10 British electronics companies which belong to the NPL Speech Recognition Club and have contributed financially to the project.

In the United States, IBM claims the lead. Its researchers are working with a natural vocabulary of 1,000 English words and no artificial rules of grammar or syntax. They have achieved 91 per cent accuracy with trained people speaking at normal pace. One limitation of the experimental IBM system is that it still takes 80 times as long to process the words as the speaker takes to utter them.

However, IBM expects the delay to shrink rapidly as technology improves. Its scientists believe they can build a prototype dictation typewriter within a decade.

NOTICE OF ISSUE — ABRIDGED PARTICULARS

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

EAST ANGLIAN WATER COMPANY

(Originally incorporated in England by the Lowestoft Water, Gas and Market Act 1853, the name of the Company being changed on 1st January, 1962 by the East Anglian Water Order 1961.)

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF £2,000,000

9 per cent. Redeemable Preference Stock, 1987

(which will mature for redemption at par on 29th May, 1987)

Minimum Price of Issue — £99 per £100 of Stock

yielding at this price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate, £12·98 per cent.

This Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961 and by paragraph 10 (as amended in its application to the Company) of Part II of the First Schedule thereto. Under that paragraph, the required rate of dividend on the Ordinary Capital of the Company was 4 per cent. but, by the Trustee Investments (Water Companies) Order 1973, such rate was reduced to 2.5 per cent. in relation to dividends paid during any year after 1972.

The preferential dividends on the Stock will be at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum and no tax will be deducted therefrom. Under the imputation tax system, the associated tax credit at the current rate of Advance Corporation Tax (3/7ths of the distribution) is equal to a rate of 3⁶/₇ths per cent. per annum.

Tenders for the Stock must be made on the Form of Tender supplied with the Prospectus and must be accompanied by a deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for and sent in a sealed envelope to Deloitte Haskins & Sells, New Issues Department, P.O. Box 207, 128, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX marked "Tender for East Anglian Water Stock", so as to be received not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, 22nd April, 1982. The balance of the purchase money will be payable on or before Tuesday, 25th May, 1982.

Copies of the Prospectus, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and Forms of Tender may be obtained from:—

Seymour, Pierce & Co., 10, Old Jewry, London EC2R 8EA.

Barclays Bank PLC, 61, London Road North, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1LT.

or from the Offices of the Company at 163, High Street, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1HT and 84, York Road, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR30 2LZ.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

F J C LILLEY

Looking for worldwide contracts

F J C Lilley, the Glasgow-based civil engineering group which helped to build Hongkong's mass transit system, London's Green Park station and was involved in the construction of the Victoria underground line is aiming to compete for much bigger contracts world wide.

Expansion at home and abroad — the group has spent around £8.5m in the past two years — has depleted its cash reserves which at the end of last January stood at around £5m.

To finance new major projects and provide sufficient lines of capital for making more acquisitions, Lilley announced yesterday that it wants to raise £6.15m from shareholders with a one-for-five rights issue a £120p. In the Stock Market, the shares dropped 6p to 160p.

The cash raising accompanied the group's annual figures which for the year to the end of last January, showed pre-tax profits up from £6m to £7.8m on a turnover ahead £27m to £127m. As indicated at the half-way stage, the total gross dividend is lifted 10 per cent to 7.857p with a gross 5.02p final.

The group says that it expects trading to expand in the current year with a satisfactory order book. It has seen an increasing share of business from overseas markets which Lilley says has to some extent offset the impact of the economic climate in the United Kingdom.

Mr James Aitken, chairman, said the group had not earmarked the new cash for any particular expansion although it intends to pursue a number of new opportunities.

HEWDEN-STUART

Plunge into red

Hewden-Stuart Plant, the Glasgow-based construction equipment hirer, saw pretax profits of £2.9m in 1980 turn into a loss of £954,000 for the year to January 1982.

Turnover was also sharply down at £81m against £96m last time. The company said this decrease was "accelerated by the conscious decision not to pursue volume in the face of uneconomic pricing".

On the stock market, the shares bucked the downward trend by firming 1p to close at 31p. This was largely due to a decision to maintain last year's dividend at 1.82p gross for the year, Mr Alastair Deakin, the company's finance director, said.

Interest charges fell from £4.2m to £2.9m. Cash flow per share of 9.46p against 14.57p was described as "remaining extremely strong".

"The directors have reached the conclusion that the recession has now bottomed out, that the workload of our customers is stabilizing, and that inroads have been made into the substantial surplus equipment held by the hire industry which was responsible for the collapse of the rate structure", the company said.

Mr Deakin said that customers' use of equipment had picked up in the first two months of the financial year and that prices were hardening slightly.

The decision to pay this year's dividend out of reserves had been reached after regard to the conservative dividend policy of past years, he said. An additional factor was the positive cash flow and the company's view of the likely trading outlook over the next 18 months.

T. C. HARRISON

Overheads cut

Sheffield-based vehicle and heavy plant leasing group T. C. Harrison produced a 16 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £2.883m in the 12 months to December 31, 1981 on turnover which was fractionally down to £72.515m against £73.83m last time.

Action by the group to cut back on overheads has been the main contributory factor to the improved profits in the midst of a recession reports Mr Edward Harrion, chairman. A boost to profits was the drastic reduction in interest charges slashed from just under £1m last time to only £168,000.

In spite of adverse trading conditions Mr Harrison comments that all divisions of the group made profits during the year including commercial vehicles which witnessed a 20 per cent shrinking in the market.

Even in the heavy construction vehicle division, the group produced some commendable results. Profits from the earthmoving section more than doubled from £169,000 to £342,000 over the year against a background of falling construction activity.

As a result of improved profitability, Harrison's directors are recommending a final dividend of 2.18p a share, a 7½ per cent rise on last year's pay put. Total dividend for the year is 3.1p a share compared with 2.965p in 1980, representing an overall increase of 5.1 per cent.

Earnings per share have advanced from the previous year's 12.66p to 13.03p.

On the current year, Mr Harrison comments that he is unable to predict the outcome but states that results will prove to be satisfactory. Profits in the first two months of the year are lower than the corresponding period on 1981 because divisions were hard hit by the inclement weather.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Aberthaw Cement (F)	32.8(31.1)	3.19(2.56)	61.09(53.37)	7.5(6.5)	—	11.5(10)
Beradin Rbr. (F)	0.86(0.81)	0.32(0.35)	1.04(1.22)	0.35(0.4)	—	0.65(0.75)
Bestwood (F)	0.8(0.18)	0.18(0.17)	7.55(7.37)	5.5(4.5)	—	5.5(4.5)
Camrex (F)	19.6(22.99)	1.01(1.68a)	6.97(4.73a)	2.3(—)	1/7	4.02(—)
Combined English (F)	96.67(106.9)	2.68(3.21)	3.62a(7.0)	1.6(1.6)	20/7	3.1(3.1)
Clyde Pet. (F)	24.09(17.35)	1.1(1.14)	0.3(5.3)	0.5(0.5)	2/7	0.5(0.5)
Dowding & Mills (I)	8.23(8.34)	0.79(0.65)	—(—)	0.78(0.7)	—	—(1.65)
Feb Int. (F)	16.4(14.23)	0.9(0.77)	7.03(10.49)	1.9(1.3b)	27/5	2.2(2b)
Gen.Scot.Tst. (F)	—(—)	1.2c(1.16c)	3.21(3.06)	2.1(1.9)	—	3.1(2.9)
T.C.Harrison (F)	72.5(73.8)	2.88(2.49)	13.03(12.6)	2.1(2.03)	2/7	3.1(2.95)
Hewden-Stuart (F)	81(96)	1.2a(3.1)	—(m)	0.8(0.8)	—	—(1.0)
Kalamazoo (I)	16.5(15.7)	0.43(0.3)	—(—)	0.8(0.8)	24/5	.(2 5)
Land Invest. (I)	—(—)	1.5(1.23)	—(—)	0.2(0.2)	—	—(1 0)
F. J. C. Lilley (F)	127(101.5)	7.8(6.1)	21.4(23.7)	3.52(3.2)	2/6	5.5(5)
Lon. Brick (F)	127(123.8)	11.1(10.7)	—(—)	3.1(2.6)	3/7	4.8(4.3)
Martonair (I)	18.5(17.88)	1.81(2.02)	—(—)	1.9(1.9)	14/5	—(7.6)
Wm. Morrison (F)	198(171)	7.55(5.97)	9.98(11.39)	1(0.9b)	29/5	1.4(1.2b)
M. Crucible (F)	133(123.7)	8.07(10.0)	10.5(15.4)	4(3)	16/7	7.5(7.5)
Neil & Spencer (F)	25.8(27.4)	1.4a(0.16a)	14.4a(1.1)	—(0.7)	—	—(2.1)
NMW Computers (F)	2.35(2.11)	0.54(0.5)	13.3(12.6)	4(2.5)	29/5	4(2.5)
M. F. North (F)	3.71(4.17)	0.08(0.45)	0.03(1.27)	0.6(0.6)	11/6	0.8(0.8)
Lon. & Holyrood (F)	—(—)	2.2c(2.1c)	6.17(5.89)	4(3.75)	—	6(5.75)
Lon. & Provincial (F)	—(—)	3.04c(2.8c)	5.67(5.33)	3.6(3.3)	26/7	5.65(5.3)
Rowan & Boden (F)	12.6(13.62)	0.18a(0.38)	4.67a(12.2)	—(1.21)	—	0.5(2.21)
R T Z (F)	3,021(2,796)	102(155)	40.4(61.6)	10(10)	1/7	16(16)
Taylor Woodrow (F)	575(520)	24.8(24.8)	48.3(55.6)	13(10)	1/7	16(16)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss. b=Adjusted for scrip issue. c=Gross revenue.



THE BEGINNINGS OF AN IMPROVED FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

'What has been achieved is clearly due to our own efforts'

Statement by Sir Trevor Holdsworth, Chairman, from the 1981 Annual Report and Accounts.

PRE-TAX PROFIT/LOSS
1980 £ MILLION: 1st HALF 36·2 PROFIT; 2nd HALF 37·4 LOSS
1981 £ MILLION: 1st HALF 5·4 PROFIT; 2nd HALF 29·2 PROFIT

The profit before tax of £34·6 million for the year, after the 1980 loss of £1·2 million, shows the beginnings of an improved financial performance stemming from the very stringent and costly actions that we took in 1980 and to a lesser extent in 1981.

In this achievement, we have had generally no help from economic or market conditions in the major countries in which we operate: in particular, the automotive and construction markets have continued to be depressed, giving inadequate levels of demand.

In the United Kingdom, our largest single investment area, it may be true that the bottom of the cycle was reached in the second quarter of the year. However, subsequent months showed very little improvement in demand. The recession is not yet over: activity remains flat and much capacity remains under-utilised.

Nevertheless, our efforts over the last two years have begun to yield improvements in financial performance. In 1980 the United Kingdom operations as a whole incurred a loss on trading of £18 million, and this was turned into a surplus of £13 million for 1981. Although this turn-round was a creditable achievement, results remain very far from satisfactory in the United Kingdom both in regard to the return on a turnover in excess of £1,000 million and on the resources invested.

Overseas the surplus on trading improved to £70 million from £55 million in 1980. In Europe, where our businesses are mainly linked to the automotive industry, the results were down on last year, but elsewhere trading surpluses increased substantially; in North America as a result not only of the bringing into production of the new facilities but also the progressive development of autoparts distribution; in Asia and South Africa as a consequence of favourable market circumstances.

Rationalisation, reorganisation, closure and

THE WORK OF RESTRUCTURING HAS NOT YET FINISHED

divestment continued during the year in many businesses. Employee redundancy costs in on-going activities absorbed nearly £12 million and there were further charges under 'Extraordinary items' for discontinued activities of £25 million (of which £6 million was for employee redundancy). The total redundancy cost of £18 million relates to severance payments for almost 6,000 employees. All these figures are on a total Group basis, but the overseas proportion is small.

Thus, although the costs of reorganisation were less severe than in 1980, they still amounted to nearly £37 million compared with £75 million in the previous year.

Whilst many of the major problems have been dealt with at great cost in both financial and social terms, the work of restructuring has not yet finished, and further costs will have to be incurred in 1982 and beyond.

Following the completion of major schemes at Brymbo and the bulk of the construction work on the new transmissions factories in the USA, capital spending was somewhat lower than in recent years at £84 million, of which £43 million was in respect of United Kingdom activities. These figures still represent however a very considerable investment in the modernisation and replacement of plant and

TOWARDS WORLD RATHER THAN NATIONAL MARKETS

machinery in our businesses in the United Kingdom, Europe and elsewhere.

Expenditure on acquisitions was £18 million, comprising principally a half share in the waste management business of Cleanaway Ltd in the United Kingdom and a number of Autoparts distribution businesses which extended regional and product coverage in the USA and in France.

We have continued to pursue technological developments in new materials, new methods of manufacture and improved product design, all aimed at producing better, lighter and more accurately finished products, primarily for the automotive industry. Particular advances have been made in forging and squeeze forming techniques and in the use of composite materials which promise to reduce the weight of certain components by more than 50%.

Despite the very significant sums which have been absorbed in retrenchment and in the development of our on-going businesses, we have nevertheless achieved a positive cash flow and have contained total borrowings. This is a reflection of the stringent control exercised on working capital and of increased operating efficiencies.

In maintaining our programme for strategic change and development, we are moving towards more technically oriented products, towards distribution and services and towards world rather than national markets. In this context the development of our activities in the USA is of particular relevance.

In the mid-1970s that country was a relatively unimportant market for us – annual sales by our local companies were about £20 million and total Group exports were about £16 million per annum. Since that time we have established production facilities in North Carolina for the manufacture of the product in which we are world leaders both in technology and supply – the constant velocity joint for front wheel drive and other applications. The second plant was commissioned on time, and within planned cost, in October 1981 and our confidence in the future of this investment has been reinforced by the achievements of 1981. As a parallel strategy we have also made substantial investments in the distribution of automotive accessories and replacement parts, the results of which amply justify our plans for further development and extension.

Sales by our indigenous companies in the USA totalled £161 million in 1981, and total Group exports

OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OUR OWN ABILITY

to this market were £77 million. To some large degree the success of our export programme must be attributed to the additional strength which our local investments have given us in these markets, a pattern which we had already experienced in Europe where export growth in the mid-1970s followed directly from our earlier investments on the Continent.

More than ever before, this has been a year when the credit for what has been achieved is clearly due to our own efforts; no benevolent economic forces have assisted us; indeed quite the contrary. I would therefore like particularly to record my appreciation of the co-operation, efforts and achievements of all employees.

Current economic and market trends do not yet provide a firm base on which to build an optimistic forecast for 1982. There is no benign tunnel light twinkling nor any sign of an upturn to be poised for.

But I am more optimistic about our own ability to manage in difficult and dull circumstances, to react to change in markets and to seek and secure new opportunities.

In this lies my hope and confidence for achieving progressive prosperity for the GKN Group.



GUEST KEEN AND NETTLEFOLDS PLC

If you would like a copy of the 1981 Annual Report and Accounts please write to:
Guest Keen and Nettlefolds plc, GPR Dept., GKN House, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LG Tel: 01-242 1616 Telex: 24911

BIDS AND DEALS

Cussins Property Group has received detailed planning consent for a £3m shopping development in the centre of South Shields.

Directors of Hemerdon Mining and Smelting think it probable that shareholders will receive the net proceeds of the sale of its proposed tungsten mine outside Plymouth; Mr Bud Schwarzwalder, chairman, said yesterday.

The option agreement for Billiton (UK) to buy Hemerdon's 50 per cent of the Hemerdon Ball mine for about £8.5m was formally completed yesterday.

Atlantic Resources has reported a significant test result from the Finney No 1 Well on the Pine Ridge Prospect drilled by its associate, the PCX Corporation of Oklahoma City. The first tested interval between 20,406 to 20,436 ft flowed gas at rates of 5 million cu ft per day.

A new single premium bond, the Henderson Natural Resources Fund, has been announced by Henderson Administration.

The fund will invest initially in the Henderson Oil and Natural Resources Trust and the Henderson Australian Trust. Minimum subscription for the 100p units is £1,000 and the fund will be linked to the Henderson Maximum Investment Plan.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada has announced its intention to stop selling life assurance in Malta because of the introduction of the Insurance Business Act.

APPOINTMENTS

Sir Henry Chilver has been appointed a director of TR Technology Investment Trust; Mr M. R. Block and Mr A. E. Buxton have been appointed directors of TR Australia Investment Trust; Mr C. J. Kendrick and Mr N. M. Shaw have been appointed directors of TR North America Investment Trust; Mr K. St Johnston has been appointed to the board of TR Pacific Basin Investment Trust from 1 May; Mr R. J. Assheton and Mr D. L. Donne have been appointed directors of TR Natural Resources Investment Trust; The Marquess of Tavistock has been appointed chairman and Mr G. C. Musson, Sir Jack Hughes and Mr P. C. Hyde-Thomson have been appointed directors of TR Property Investment Trust, while Sir Anthony Touche and Mr A. I. McDonald have resigned from the board; Mr A. I. McDonald has been appointed a director of TR Industrial and General Trust and TR Trustees Corporation.

Mr Michael J. Brown has been appointed management services director of the London Electricity Board.

Mr Michael Cuddigan, Mr Matthew Windridge, Mr John Fuller, Mr Michael Mahoney and Mr Robert Pack have joined the partnership of Quilter Goodison. Mr Michael Chase has retired from the partnership after more than 40 years with Quilter Goodison and its predecessor firms. Mr Chase remains an associate member of the firm.

Mr John B. Fraser, president of Morgan Grenfell Inc, has joined the board of Morgan Grenfell Co. He will continue to be resident in New York.

Sir James Cleminson, chairman of Reckitt and Colman, and Mr Eugene L. Brondy Jr, who is a partner in the New York law firm of Rogers and Wells, will join the board of United Biscuits (Holdings) as non-executive directors at the annual meeting on May 11.

Mr I. W. Maclean has been appointed chief executive of Plessey Office Systems. He succeeds Mr J. E. Donnelly.

Mr John Wilson has been appointed deputy chief executive of KCA International. He will continue to be group finance director.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Trading in the shares of Singapore's three largest circulation newspapers has been suspended at the request of the three publishing companies, the Singapore Stock Exchange announced.

Trading of Straits Times Press stock was stopped yesterday. Stock market transactions involving Sin Chew Jit Poh and Nanyang Siang Pau, the leading Chinese language dailies, were suspended on Wednesday. No reasons were announced for the suspensions.

Bancomer, S.A., The largest private bank in Latin America, yesterday announced its 1981 results, which show a 21.5 per cent increase in profits for the year ended December 31, over those for 1980.

Total assets were $18,624m (about £10,232m) while net profits for the year amounted to $158m, compared with $14,550m and $130m respectively in 1980.

Hoechst UK, a British subsidiary of the West German Hoechst chemical group, will acquire 50 per cent of the share capital of TR Oil Services, an Aberdeen-based company distributing chemicals used in oil recovery. The acquisition will be effective from May 1.

Denny's Inc. expects to report a profit rise of about 37 per cent and an earnings per share increase of about 20 per cent for the third quarter ended March 26.

Sales at Denny's, a coffee shop and doughnut house chain, are expected to show an increase of about 9 per cent for the quarter.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crdts	13%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 10¼%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11%, £50,000 and over 11¼%.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
130	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	128	—	10.0	7.8	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	44	—	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3
205	187	Bardon Hill	198	—	9.7	4.9	9.6	11.7
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—
104	61	Deborah Services	61	—	6.0	9.8	3.0	5.7
131	97	Frank Horsell	125	—	6.4	5.1	11.3	23.1
83	39	Frederick Parker	76	—	6.4	8.4	3.9	7.4
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prec Castings	96	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	108	—	15.7	14.5	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130	108	James Burrough	114	—	8.7	7.6	8.3	10.5
334	240	Robert Jenkins	240	—	31.3	13.0	3.3	8.5
64	51	Scruttons "A"	63	—	5.3	8.4	9.7	9.0
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13½	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	80	—	15.0	18.8	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	212	W. S. Yeates	230	—	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.0

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

MORGAN CRUCIBLE

No change in full payout

Morgan Crucible, the manufacturer of special carbons and ceramics for electrical, mechanical and heat-using incustries, suffered a fall of £2m in pretaw profits last year to £8.07m.

The directors recommend that the final dividend be raised from 4.3p gross to 5.7p gross, but the full payout is unchanged at 10.7p gross.

Mr Ian Weston Smith, chairman, said that profits in Britain picked up towards the end of the year. In the first quarter trading profits in this country barely broke even, but by the final three months the outcome was a profit of £1.9m. Part of the problem was redundancy and relocation costs of £900,000.

Most of the profit therefore came from the overseas operations. Their full trading profit was £6.2m, and Hydrotex, whose figures are not included, added £877,000 between its acquisiton at the beginning of September and the end of the year.

Another recent gain not included in the 1981 results is the £3m from selling nine acres of land in Battersea, south London. The deal with Wates, the house builders, incorporates an equity share from the sale of homes. About £950,000 will be taken in as an extraordinary profit this year.

The effect of the depressionis shown in the decline in trading profits made by Borgan's two principlw divisions, electrical carbons and thermic products. Trading profits for these sectors fell from £3.55m to £3.13m and from £4.62m to £3.55m respectively. But Acorn managed to raise trading profits by £1m to £2.36m.

Thereafter net interst charges up from £2.95m to £4.02m and a tax payment not much reduced to £2.99m, left attributable profits £1.8m down at £4.67m. Earnings per share fell from 15.4p to 10.5p. Mr Weston Smith said that 1982 had started quietly, especially in the United States.

NEIL & SPENCER

Losses grow

Neil & Spencer Holdings dropped deeper into the red during the 12 months to last November. But an improvement in orders for the group, which makes machinery for industries from laundries to ceramics, meant losses could be virtually halved to £500,000 by the end of next month.

Last year, losses increased from £162,800 to £1.4m on a turnover down from £27.4m to £25.6m against £193,000 last time.

The profit forecast came with a cash call to shareholders for £500,000 to reduce £4m of debt. The group is also selling two subsidiaries which combined with the rights issue should yeild about £1m.

Shareholders are being offered one new share at 12p for every two they own. The issue has been underwritten by Baring Brothers. The shares dropped 6p on the news to 14p.

Mr Stephen Proctor, chairman, says orders for the first four months of this year are better than the same period in 1981. Group turnover is expected to rise this year from £25.6m to £28m.

Retained profits fell in 1981 from £2.3m to £633,000 and the group has again passed the dividend. The last payment was 3p gross in 1980.

WM MORRISON

Shares fall

Wm Morrison Supermarkets' 26.5 per cent rise in pretax profits to £7.5m and 12 per cent increase in dividend to 1.4p for 1981 left the shares down 2p at 160p because of the state of the market.

But there has been profit-taking ahead of the expected good figures, and on the rise to the high of 174p.

Sales were up from £171m to £198m but earnings per share fell from 11.39p to 9.96p. Interest and investment income produced a contribution of £336,000, against a deduction last time of £483,000. Rent received was up a little to £371,000.

The Bradford-based group has been developing new stores; one at Harrogate opened in October and another at Staveley, near Chesterfield, opens soon.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Banque Nationale de Paris is to raise $250m (about £140m) through a seven-year floating rate note, with warrants to purchase the same amount in a straight bond, according to market sources in London.

It carries a ⅛ per cent spread over six month London Interbank offered rates, with a minimum coupon of 5¼ per cent, they said. The issue will be lead managed by BNP with Salomon Brothers and Credit Suisse-First Boston.

Each $10,000 denomination note has a one year warrant to purchase a similar size bond due in 1990, which carries a 14¼ per cent coupon at par.

CIT Financial Corporation, a subsidiary of RCA has withdrawn its proposed $50m five-year Eurobond, according to Dillon, Read Overseas Corporation, the lead manager.

The issue was withdrawn because the company was able to raise the money in the United States on comparable terms, the company said.

The Danish government plans to float a 15,000m Euro-yen bond this month, Nomura Securities, the lead manager, said.

The Japanese company said the 10-year bond is expected to carry an 8¼ per cent coupon, but the issue price has yet to be fixed.

IC Industries Corporation of Curacao will tap the Swiss capital market, probably for SFr100m (about £28.5m), according to Union Bank of Switzerland. The borrowing will be backed by the parent company, IC Industries of the United States, the bank said.

A Eurofranc bond to be floated by the World Bank next week has been authorized as an experiment to see whether Swiss franc denominated eurobonds will be allowed in the future, according to the Swiss national bank.

The Swiss Bank Corp, which is acting as manager, said that the World Bank will float a $100m Swiss franc linked bond with a syndicate which will include 50 foreign banks as underwriters.

Eksportfinans, the export credit agency owned by Norwegian banks, is floating a $50m, seven-year note issue at par through a Eurobnd syndicate led by Credit Suisse-First Boston. It will bear 14½ per cent.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade copper closed steady. — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash, £868.50-69.5; three months £897.5-98.00. Sales: 7,450 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £864-64.50 three months, £893-93.50. Sales: 75 tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash, £867.50-68.50; three months, £896.50-97.00. Settlement, £868.50. Sales: 6,200 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £862.50-63; three months, £891.50-92.00. Settlement, £868.00. Sales 550 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin was steadier at yesterday's close. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £7136.40 a tonne; three months £7370-75. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning. — Standard cash £7115-20; three months £7340-45. Settlement, £7120. Sales 335 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M29.44 a picul.

LEAD was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £323-24.00 per tonne; three months, £336.50-37.00. Sales, 10,800 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £321-21.50; three months £334.50-35.00. Settlement £321.50. Sales, 3,800 tonnes.

ZINC was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £410.50-11.50 per tonne; three months £413.50-14.00. Sales, 2,750 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £410.50-11.00; three months £413-13.50. Settlement, £411.00. Sales, 8,850 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £201.40 ($354.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steadier. — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot, 435.75p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 748.50); three months, 439.35p (776.10c); six months, 453.05p (803.10c); one year, 480.40p (856.10c). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon — Cash, 427-28p; three months, 441.8-42.0p. Sales, 81 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 426-27.0p; three months, 440.6-40.8p. Settlement, 427.0p. Sales, 42 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £573-73.00 per tonne; three months, £594.50-95.0. Sales, 4,750 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £572.50-£73.00; three months, £595-95.50. Settlement, £573.00. Sales, 5,500 tonnes.

NICKEL was barely steady at the close — Afternoon. — Cash, 3,060-70 per tonne; three months, £3,120-25. Sales, 312 tonnes. Morning — Cash, £3,085-90; three months, £3,135-40. Settlement, £3,090. Sales, 216 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo): May 55.80-56.70; June 56.70-57.60; July-Sept 58.20-58.30; Oct-Dec 59.20-59.30; Jan-Mar 60.40-60.50; Apr-June 61.90-62.00; July-Sept 63.30-63.40; Oct-Dec 64.80-65.00; Jan-Mar 66.40-66.60. Sales: Seven lots at five tonne each and 595 at 15 tonnes, including one kerb.

COFFEE. — ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): May 1240-1242; July 1172-1175; Sept 1146-1147; Nov 1134-1138; Jan 1130-1134; Mar 1130-1140; May 1120-1150. Sales: 2,314 lots, including 10 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton) — Apr 935-965; May 973-974; July 1010-1012; Sept 1043-1045; Dec 1083-1085; Mar 1108-1114; May 1128-1132; July 1143-1149. Sales 1,932 lots. ICCO prices: daily (April 14), 78.68c; indicator price (April 15), 5-day average, 77.48c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws" was £1.00 higher at £142; the "whites" price was £2.00 higher at £164. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 148.25-148.30; Aug, 152.50-152.60; Oct, 157.00-157.50; Jan, 160.50-161.75; March, 167.50-167.75; May, 170.25-170.50; Aug, 174.00-174.75. ISA prices (April 14): daily, 10.07c; 15-day average, 10.52c.

SOYABEANMEAL (£ per tonne): April, 141.50-143.00; June, 136.50-136.90; Aug, 136.60-137.00; Oct, 137.50-137.70; Dec, 140.20-140.50; Feb, 142.40-142.90; April, 143.00-145.00. Sales: 297 lots including 200 kerb options.

WOOL. — NZ Crossbreds, No. 2 contract (cents per kilo): — May, 391-407; Aug, 413-417; Oct, 422-426; Dec, 420-424; Jan, 423-428; March, 451-456; May, 437-446; Aug, 448-455; Oct, 440-460. Sales: 126 lots.

GRAIN (the Baltic). WHEAT. Canadian western red spring, No. 1 13½, unquoted. US dark northern spring No. 1, 14 per cent: May £117.50; Jne £117.25; Jly £116.75 trans-shipment east coast seller. US hard winter, 13½ per cent, unquoted. EEC, unquoted. English feed fob: Sep £111 east coast; Oct-Dec £115.50 east coast seller.

MAIZE. French: Apl £134.00 trans-shipment east coast seller. S. Afr white-yellow: May-Jne £90.50 seller.

BARLEY. English feed fob: Apl £116 east coast; May £116.75; Kings Lynn: Aug £106.50 Boston. All cif U.K. unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.

BARLEY: May £111.80; Sept £103.75; Nov £107.60; Jan £111.60; Mar £115.20. Sales 107 lots.

WHEAT: May £118.90; Jly £122.50; Sept £107.90; Nov £111.80; Jan £115.70 Mar £119.45. Sales: 200 lots

Home-Grown Cereals Authority. — Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other Milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£114.60	£109.20
S. West	—	£115.60	£109.60
W. Mids	—	£115.00	£111.30
N. West	—	£117.30	£109.40

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 15. — GB: Cattle, 102.59p per kg lw (−0.06). UK: Sheep, 238.31p per kg est d c w (+11.47). GB: Pigs, 76.86p per kg lw (+0.64). England and Wales: Cattle nos. up 182.8 per cent, ave. price, 102.30p (−0.99). Sheep nos. up 158.5 per cent, ave. price, 242.69p (+9.54). Pig nos. up 242.0 per cent, ave. price, 76.86p (+0.64). Scotland: Cattle nos. down 29.7 per cent, ave. price, 103.60p (+1.50). Sheep nos. up 41.1 per cent, ave. price, 228.69p (+9.63).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($US per tonne). — Apr 275.00-77.50 May 278.50-79.00 Jun 278.50-79.00 Jly 278.25-78.50 Aug 281.00-81.75 Sep 285.00-85.25 Oct 288.00-89.00 Nov 291.00-93.00 Sales 2,256 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta). — Nov. £63.70; April £83.10; May £91.50. Sales: 218 lots of 40 tonnes each.

WALL STREET

New York, April 15. — Share prices were miwed in moderate trading at the opening of the New York Stock Exchange.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was ahead by 0.10 of a point to 838.18 shortly after trading began.

Declining stocks outnumbered asvances, 351-317, among the 1,065 issues crossing the New York Stock Exchange tape.

Early NYSE turnover reached about 2.69m shares. Prices were also mixed inmoderate trading of American Stock Exchange issues.

Profit-taking and concern over the setuations in the Falkland Islands and the Middle East dampened trading on Wednesday.

Analysts said today could be another session of little movement as the market tries to assimilate four weeks of steady gains which saw the Dow average climb 44.57 points up to Thursday of last week.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

Thrill of impractical romance

Not all the romance can have gone out of motoring when the mere presence of a car in your drive causes grown men to drool like small boys and small boys (and, in one case, a small girl) to beg you to let them sit in the passenger seat to savour the atmosphere.

I am talking about the Series Three Lotus Esprit, and it was not just the coincidental television screening of the James Bond film that prompted this unusual attention. The Esprit is a car of s triking visual appeal and distinctive character, and of not many models can that be said these days.

It is also, I should point out, very much a car for the enthusiast, being in many respects wildly impractical, little pleasure to drive in traffic, noisy, uncomfortable, and offering barely space for two people, including the driver, with the minumum of luggage.

Not that any of these factors will deter the sort of person who either dreams of buying a Lotus, or actually does so. The ranks of the latter are swelling again, which means that after a bad period when production had to be cut to only 30 cars a month to allow stocks to be cleared, Lotus should, by August, be making 100 cars a month for the first time since 1978.

Lotus is also working on a new model that will augment the present Esprit/Eclat/Elite range. It will appear in late 1983 or early 1984 and feature a twin cam engine, and possibly other components, from Toyota of Japan.

The idea is to take Lotus back to where it used to be with the Elan, before kit cars were killed by the removal of the purchase tax concession. It will be cheaper than the Esprit range, which will continue as the Lotus flagship, and of wider appeal; the company is looking for sales of 5,000 a year.

Meanwhile, back to the Esprit, which is a two-seater with the engine mounted in the middle and driving the rear wheels. The policy has been to choose a unit of relatively modest cubic capacity (which is partly why the car returns sucyh respectable fuel consumption) but to tune it for maximum power. Thus a 2174cc four-cylinder unit is boosted by double overhead camshafts and 16 valves to produce an impressive 160 bhp.

Fitted to a low-slung, aerodynamic bodyshell which, thanks to the use of fibreglass, weighs in at a relatively low 21cwt, the engine gives an exhilarating performance. Acceleration from rest to 60 mph takes a mere 6.5 seconds; mid-range acceleration in fifth gear is good and in fourth outstanding; and the claimed top speed, for which I will accept Lotus's claim, is 138 mph. The only other two-litre that gives such figures in the Porsche 924 Carrera.

Four cylinders, though, are not as smooth as six and while typical Lotus drivers may consider a throaty exhaust a badge of virility rather than an assault on the eardrums, no one could call the Esprit a refined car. The noise by itself is not unbearable and once settled into a steady speed, in top gear, the engine is reasonably sweet. But its position, immediately behind the occupants, means that it cannot be effectively insulated and the car also suffers from a degree of vibration that sensitive stomachs will not appreciate.

Considering the performance, fuel consumption is very good. The car should do about 20 mpg in town and 25 mpg and more on the open road. The twin fuel tanks take a total of 15 gallons, wich means a touring range of 350 miles.



Feeding fantasies — the Lotus Esprit

Apart from speed, the main justification for such a car is its handling. The Esprit does not disappoint; with tautly sprung suspension and low profile tyres, it grips the road superbly and gives flat and almost neutral cornering. It is a vehicle that can be driven hard with the confidence that it will remain under precise control.

The steering (no power assistance) is a little heavy and has a strong self-centring action that needs getting used to; but it is very positive. The five-speed gearbox also requires practice, to overcome strong spring loading towards third and fourth, while the clutch demands a strong left foot. The all-disc brakes have a light and progressive action.

Comfort may not be the first requirement of a sports coupé and the Esprit is certainly no limousine. The taut suspension produces a hard ride, acceptable enough on good surfaces at speed but likely to be caught out by bumps at 25 mph. A car only 3ft 8in high is not easy to het into and out of without stooping and the driving position is nearer racing car horizontal than bus driver upright. With the seat pushed right back, there was just enough length and headroom for my 6ft frame. The seats are firm, well shaped but narrow.

The main hazard when driving the Esprit is not the thought that the back wheels might slide, but visibility. Not only do you sit low down, the thick rear quarters make it almost impossible to see out of the car at the back and force reliance on the outside mirrors. Trying to make an angled turn can, frankly, verge on the dangerous.

The other difficulty is the width of the car, nearly 6ft, which means that fine judgment is needed when parking and manoeuvring in traffic. That splendid wedge shape does not help, because the end of the sharply raked bonnet is invisible from the driving seat.

The instruments have the double disadvantage of setting up reflections and being partially obscured by the steering wheel and the handbrake is a long reach even for a tall driver. The heater works well but the fan is needed to produce an effective flow of cool air.

Lotus prices have come down in the last couple of years, and at £13,782 the Esprit is well matched with the Porsche 924, which Lotus sees as a main rival. But over, say, £10,000 price is not crucial, and if the Esprit fills only a small gap in the market it does so with style.

Vital statistics
Price: £13,782
Engine size: 2174 cc
Top speed: 138 mph
0-60 mph: 6.5 seconds
Official fuel figures: Urban, 19.8 mpg; 56 mph, 38.7 mpg; 75 mph, 33.2 mpg
Length: 13ft 9in
Insurance group: 9

Belt law

With the new seat belt law only months away, some people of less than average height are worried that they will be forced to wear belts which, instead of fitting neatly over the shoulder, come in under the jaw and across the throat.

Miss Karen Sturtivant, a reader from West London, says she is 5ft 1in and finds almost all belts uncomfortable. She realizes that it is possible (though at her own expense) to fit an adjustment to the belt in her car. But what happens if she travels in a friend's car? Must she then sit in the back?

"Although I am shorter than the average car designer, I am by no means unusually short and there must be millions of people, particularly women with the same difficulty." She suggests that everyone can wear them comfortably.

To meet Miss Sturtivant's difficulty several devices are available, such as drop-plates and adjustable anchorage points, at moderate cost. BL's Unipart subsidiary, for instance, offers a lowering bracket suitable for the belts on Mini, Maxi, Allegro, Marina and Ital models. It costs £1.80, plus VAT. Dealers, car manufacturers or the makers of belts should be able to advise on what is suitable for a particular car.

Another solution, which could help Miss Surtivant if she is travelling in a friend's car, is a booster cushion. Instead of bringing the belt lower, it makes the person higher. The principle has been used in products designed for children, so that they can be safely belted in the front seat.

The Department of Transport says that as adjusters are obtainable, it has no plans for legislation. It also claims that, according to investigations it has carried out, belts worn across the neck are unlikely to be dangerous. At worst, the wearer would suffer burn.

Bigger and better

The Royal Automobile Club has just published a revised and updated edition of its Great Britain Road Atlas, which I can confidently recommend as one of the best available. The atlas has a bigger format than before, which may disqualify it from the average glove box but does not mean that a generous area can be covered in each double page spread. A small point is that the book is now stapled, instead of bound, allowing the page to lie flat.

The quality of the maps, which are on the scale of four miles to the inch, comes partly from the amount of information they contain but, above all, their clarity. They are simply easier to read than most others. With Ireland included for the first time, and street plans for London and more than 30 other cities and towns, the atlas is fine value at £3.25.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of PHOTOLIT PLANNING SERVICES Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act 1948

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 18th day of May 1982, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Stephen Daniel Swaden, F.C.A of 3-4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 6th day of April, 1982.

S SWADEN
Liquidator.

UPHOLSTERY PRODUCTIONS Limited.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3-4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Friday the 23rd day of April 1982 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 6th day of April 1982.
C. R. SOUTHALL
Director.

CHEAPSIDE ENTERPRISES Limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of LEONARD CURTIS & CO., situated at 3-4 BENTINCK STREET, LONDON W1A 3BA on Thursday the 29th day of April 1982 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295

Dated the 6th day of April 1982
A G LEVEN
Director

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of BRICK KNOLL PARK PHOTOLIT Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 17th day of May, 1982, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Keith David Goodman, FCA of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 5th day of April, 1982.

K. D. GOODMAN,
Liquidator

TRANSCHEMIA INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS Limited.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3-4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, on Thursday the 22nd day of April 1982 at 12 o'clock midday for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 6th day of April, 1982.

N. KAROBIK,
Director

RUGBY UNION

Fears for top-heavy league

By Iain Mackenzie

Scotland's three strongest clubs Hawick, Gala and Heriot's are facing the prospect of having to meet each other in the opening weeks of the next league season. Unless there are changes to the proposed fixture list, Gala will play Heriot's in Edinburgh on October 2 and Hawick away the following week. On October 16 Heriot's are due to meet Hawick at home.

The enlarged divisions of 14 clubs instead of 12 were intended partly to ensure that a club which suffered early season defeats would not necessarily be out of championship contention or facing relegation. Yet if, say, Heriot's beat both their Border rivals they would be halfway towards the title midway through October.

Whoever omes out on top of what will amount almost to an exclusive little three team league will be championship favourites, especially with no return fixtures. All they would have to do would be to beat the lesser opposition to stay ahead.

Gala are particularly upset abot the new arrangements. After a long unbeaten run this season they lost their last three league matches, and next season they could find themselves out of the running almost before the campaign has begun.

Gala's secretary Alistair Parulo said: "We are not at all happy about the arrangements and we have spoken to the Scottish Rugby Union. I am certain a better system could have been worked out".

A spokesman for the SRU said at Murrayfield: "Regardless of what arrangements are made, some clubs will be dissatisfied. It is not possible to everyone. We have been approached by one or two clubs about dates and venues, but while their representations will be considered, it is doubtful if changes will be made."

Irish pair for Barbarians

By David Hands

Two members of Ireland's triple crown-winning team, 'Ollie' Campbell and Hugo MacNeill, will play for the Barbarians in their game with Leicester at Welford Road on April 20. The match, normally played during the Christmas holiday, was postponed because of the bad weather but does, at least, provide Leicester with a grand climax to their season which, in the last four years, has culminated in the John Player Cup final.

Campbell is partnered by the Scot, Roy Laidlaw-both are strong contenders for next year's British Lions tour to New Zealand — and has the Wales wing, Robert Ackerman, outside him at centre. The pack includes five uncapped players, the Englishmen, Rendall, Cannon and Simpson, the Swansea hooker, Herdman, and an Irishman, Carr.

TEAM: H P MacNeill (Dublin univ); A Swift (Swansea), R A Ackerman (Newport), D L Johnson (Wasps), G R T Baird (Kelso); S O Campbell (Old Belvedere), R J Laidlaw (Jedforest); P Rendall (Wasps), J Herdman (Swansea), I G Milne (Heriot's), P D Simpson (Gosforth), W Cannon (Northampton), W Cuthbertson (Harlequins), N J Carr (Belfast univ), D B White (Gala).

CYCLING

World event still on course

By John Wilcockson

Press conferences were held in London and Leicester yesterday to inform the world that all was well with the British Cycling Federation's (BCF) organization of the 1982 world championships, despite the dismissal last month of the championship's director-general, John Burns, and the consequent High Court action brought by Mr Burns against the BCF.

Mr Burns is claiming that if his contract had not been broken 20 weeks before the world championships were due to start his company would have received more than £250,000 in commission.

Yesterday, the new commercial director, Alan Rushton, of the Sports-Plus promotion firm, said thatthe restructured sales programme was going according to schedule.

He announced three new sponsors, TI Raleigh, TI Reynolds and Le Coq Sportif, while confirming those previously obtained, Sealink and Campagnolo.

With four months to go before the champoinship opens at Leicester on August 23, Mr Rushton said that 35 countries have entered teams

RESULTS: 1, M Beccia (Italy-Honved) 6hr 42min; 2, J Wilmann (Norway-Caprisonne) at 02; 3, P Haghedooren (Belgium-Caprisonne) at 14; 8, Sean Kelly (Ireland-Sem) at 16.

SKIING

Gunn justifies selection

Boys selected for Scotland's national junior skiing team yesterday confirmed their claim to these places by taking the first three positions in the Scottish junior championship, sponsored by Philishave, held on Cairngorm. Both in the slalom event held on Wednesday and in the giant slalom run yesterday on firm snow and in a high wind, Graham Gunn, of Glasgow, took first place. Nicholas Yates, of Glasgow, was second and Kerr Blyth, of Edinburgh, third.

World Race results

The overall results of the Round the World Race sponsored by Whitbread's have now been announced, Barry Pickthall writes. 1, Fluer elapsed time 120 days 6hrs 34mins 14secs. Handicap 2,857hrs 12mins 48secs. 2, Charles Heidsieck III elapsed time 131 days 21hrs 34mins 35secs. Handicap 2,887hrs 55mins 29secs. 3, Kricer IX elapsed time 134 days 7hrs 37mins 42secs. Handicap time 2,890hrs 50mins 26secs. 4, Disque D'Or elapsed time 143 days 13hrs 38secs. Handicap 2,963hrs 45mins 17secs. 5, Outward Bound elapsed time 151 days 15hrs 15mins 30secs. Handicap 2,987hrs 55mins 3secs. 6, Zargo III 147 days, 15hrs 10mins 18secs. Handicap time 2,995hrs 2mins 37secs. 7, Mor Bihan France elapsed time 156 days 12hrs 34mins 17secs. Handicap 3,015hrs 29mins 45secs. 8, Berge Viking 149 days 20hrs 57mins 51secs. Handicap 3,018hrs 54mins 17secs. 9, Alaska Eagle 142 days 4hrs 56mins 42secs. Handicap time 3,034hrs 51mins 44secs. 10, Euromarche (France) 134 days, 15hrs 28mins 42secs. Handicap 3,047hrs 37mins 40secs.

FOOTBALL

Aging Czechs keep secrets in reserve

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Only Brazil and Argentina have beaten West Germany since the World Cup competition four years ago. Yet Czechoslovakia were a chin bone away from joining that elite company in Cologne on Wednesday night. But for Schumacher's tibia that blocked Janecka's close range shot, Bicovsky's equalizer might well have turned out to be a notable winner, scored as it was from a suspiciously offside position.

To imagine though, that the Czechoslovaks are the Germans' equals or even close to that elevated mark is mere delusion. Their half-hearted 2-1 defeat in the Mungersdorfer Stadium confirmed the belief that the Germans are the World Cup favourites from Europe at least and that Czechoslovakia will be awkward but far from flawless opponents for England during the opening phase in Bilbao.

Ron Greenwood, England's manager for one, marvelled at the Germans' control. They started with a 4-3-3 formation but their movement was perpetual and varied, their passing so accurate that magnets might as well have been sewn into their toe caps.

They are so strong too. With mountains for full-backs in Briegel, over 6 ft and 14½ stone, and Kaltz, even the smallest members such as the outstanding Littbarski, the local hero who gave them the lead, and young but disappointing Matthaus are not easily moved out of the way.

The addition of Stielike, Magath and possibly Schuster can only strengthen their squad.

Jupp Derwall, who signed a new four-year contract as the German manager this week, has such an enviable and complete array of talent at his disposal that his main problem is whom to omit. Of the current side only Fischer and Breitner who scored the winner from the penalty spot, may not be around in 1986.

Czechoslovakia, in contrast are an ageing group, especially their renowned forwards. Nehoda who limped off before the interval here, is nearing a century of appearances and Masny, absent though injury, is also likely to be playing in his last World Cup at the age of 31. Panenka, also missing through club commitments at Rapid Vienna is the eldest statesman of them all.

Mr Greenwood was impressed by Janecka and Vizek, the experienced centre forward who created the opportunity for Bicovsky. If defence seemed as fallible as that of France last month, particularly to the air at the far post. Regis, Mariner or whoever might start to exercise their neck muscles in readiness for June 20.

It would still be wise to reserve judgement. Mr Greenwood, for instance, picked out the Czechoslovakian free kicks on the edge of the area. Both of them. One was aimed by Jarolim, a relative newcomer, at the unbroken wall and the other was an embarrassing miss. It is safe to suggest they have something more imaginative and dangerous to offer than that.

Nevertheless England's first two opponents in Spain this summer have revealed nothing that is overtly fearsome. Naturally there are apparent dangers but it does seem that the party of 40 that is chosen on May 14 and the final selection of 22 on June 4 should be able to look forward to deciding their own destiny.

□ Nigel Vaughan could miss his first full Welsh cap, against England at Cardiff on April 27, because of a case of mistaken identity. Newport's Welsh under 21 international defender claims he was mistakenly booked, for dissent by the Winsford, Dorset referee Les Burden, in a third division match at Plymouth Argyle, on April 2.

Newport's manager Colin Addison will try to prove Vaughan's case at today's Welsh FA disciplinary meeting. The booking brought the player up to 20 points which could cost him a three-match ban and possibly his cap if he was omitted through lack of match practice.

Nearly half Swansea's first team have been named in the main squad of 16. They are Davies, Marustik, Leighton James, Robbie James and Curtis. Ian Walsh and Nigel Stevenson are also on stand-by as reserves.

Fulham's 19-goal striker Gordon Davies, who came on as a substitute for Wales in the recent friendly match in Spain, is likely to partner Liverpool's Ian Rush in attack.

Spurs decide to pay up

Tottenham Hotspur have decided to pay the £2,400 fine from UEFA for "unnecessarily hard play" in last week's European Cup Winners' Cup game against Barcelona because of their fixture pile-up.

Spurs, notified of the fine on Wednesday, were given three days in which to appeal. Had they done so, it would have meant a trip to UEFA's headquarters in Berne for their manager Keith Burkinshaw and chairman Arthur Richardson. Spurs, who have to play at least 13 games in the next six weeks as they challenge for three trophies, cannot afford to lose Mr Burkinshaw for that length of time.

Peter Day, the club's assistant secretary, said: "Our fine, in comparison to the £8,000 that Barcelona were fined, was really fairly nominal. We shall probably now send a letter to UEFA complaining about the decision and pointing out that our players were continually provoked, but UEFA rarely reverse their decisions on appeal.

"For the sum involved it just wouldn't be worth paying an appeal fee, and the accommodation and travel expenses for our representatives."

Mr Burkinshaw, who exonerated his players after the Barcelona game, was nevertheless critical of them for their lack of professionalism in Wednesday's 2-2 draw with Sunderland, a result which could ultimately cost them the championship and keep Sunderland in the first division.

A needlessly conceded penalty and a breakdown of Tottenham's offside trap allowed Rowell and Pickering to put Sunderland level after they had trailed 2-0 to goals by Galvin, the culprit at the penalty, and Hoddle.

□ Simon Stainrod, 21-goal leading scorer this season for Queen's Park Rangers, who meet Spurs in the FA Cup Final, has escaped an FA ban yesterday,

Ardiles makes a difference

Buenos Aires, April 15. — Argentina, reinforced with the return from England of Osvaldo Ardiles, drew 1-1 with the Soviet Union here last night in a warm-up match for the World Cup finals in Spain. Argentina dominated the first half with flashes of brilliance and went ahead in the 40th minute through Ramon Diaz.

But the Soviet team, unbeaten in 21 games, contained the home attack in the second half and Organessian headed an equaliser. It was Argentina's fourth successive home draw following matches against Poland (0-0), Czechoslovakia (1-1) and West Germany (1-1).

The inclusion of Ardiles helped Argentina recapture the level of performance they achieved in winning the 1978 World Cup. In matches involving other World Cup teams, Peru defeated a Milan XI 2-0, East Germany scored the only goal against Italy in Leipzig and Algeria defeated Benfica 1-0.

Fixtures backlog hits top sides

By Paul Newman

Altrincham and Enfield, non-league football's two most successful clubs in recent years, tomorrow begin a programme of matches which by comparison makes Tottenham Hotspurs' fixture promlems pale into insignificance. Enfield face six games in nine days and Altrincham nine in a fortnight as the two Alliance Premier League clubs begin their final push for honours with the second leg of FA Trophy semi-finals.

Enfield, at home to Northwich Victoria after a goalless first leg, then continue their pursuit of the league title with matches on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday again. Altrincham, away to Wycombe Wanderers a 1—1 draw last week, are set to play 70 games this season.

Tony Sanders, the Altrincham manager, said yesterday: "The present system just isn't fair, because it punishes the most successful clubs. Just like Spurs are now finding, we've suffered over the uears because of a system which is geared to giving the least successful clubs a satisfactory fixture list.

"Our problems are multiplied by the fact that we're part-time. It's physically impossible for players to do justice to themselves in so many matches when they've got jobs outside football as well."

□ Jim McAnearney has resigned as manager of Scarborough in order to devote more time to his business interests outside the club. Harry Dunn, who has been a player at the Alliance League club for 20 years, has taken over as caretaker manager. On Wednesday night, in his first game in charge, Scarborough won 3—0 against the league leaders, Runcorn, despite having to field seven réserve players because of injuries.

□ A crowd of 3,014 watched Nuneaton Borough's Southern League match on Monday night against their local rivals, Bedworth United, but the attendance was more than 2,000 down

BADMINTON

Greedy eyes covet titles

From Richard Eaton, Boblingen, West Germany, April 15

England fixed greedy eyes on all five European titles here today. Their appetites look increasingly likely to be satisfied too. An English women's singles finalist is assured, and it is six years since this title was brought home.

The men's singles title has never been won, but the prospects there are better if anything with three leading English contenders in the last eight. English pairs also consolidated their grips on the three doubles events in which they are favourites. It could be the most successful European championships ever.

The men's quarter final survivors were Nick Yates, Kevin Jolly and Ray Stevens. It was also the stage of the tournament at which Moren Frost, the All-England champion who could probably have cakewalked the title finally got fed up with watching and flew home to Copenhagen. It highlighted the fact that Stevens, who is in Frost's quarter, will never have a better chance to reach the final.

What was less clear was whether Frost would be able to sort out the muddle over his rackets contract in time for the Thomas Cup in little more than three weeks' time.

Unfortunately, Stevens' chance has come at a difficult stage of his career — the aftermath of losing his national title — when his form is not what it was. The last 16 lined him up against his friend and sparring partner, Phil Sutton, the welsh number one, whom he has played and beaten umpteen times.

That left him with a quarter final against Anatozy Skripko, the Russian number one, whose huge size — the legacy of his days as a speed skater — helped him wear down Steen Fladberg, of Denmark and yet still left him looking fresh for Stevens. Yates, with a rather more routine win over Mark Richards, another Welshman, earned himself a chance to repeat his team event victory over Thomas Kihlstrom, the number one Swede and number two seed: Jolly beat Ulf Johansson, another Swede, and plays Jens-Peter Nierhoff, Denmark's main hope.

If Jolly and Yates win, they play each other. This is the fate of Jane Webster and Karen Bridge, who both won twice and did so well. Miss Bridge is aching to reach the final because she was hot favourite last time before she twisted an ankle and retired in tears.

WOMEN Singles Third Round: L Koeppen (Denmark) beat S Williams (Wales) 11-0 11-0. H Troke (England) beat G Spiett (West Germany) 11-1 11-1. C Magnusson (Sweden) beat G Clark (England) 7-11 11-7 11-3. N Nielsen (Denmark) beat K Schmiede (West Germany) 11-3 11-1. K Bridge (England) beat A Boerjesson (Sweden) 12-9 11-5. E Zwiebler (West Germany) beat P Hamilton (Scotland) 11-12 11-4 11-6. K Dyvestein (Netherlands) beat P Nielsen (Denmark) 11-6 12-10. J Webster (England) beat A Fulton (Scotland) 11-3 11-0.

MEN Singles Third Round: A Skripko (Soviet Union) beat S Fladberg 15-13 15-9. R Stevens (England) beat P Sutton (Wales) 15-10 18-16. Peterson (Sweden) beat K Lakomy (Czechoslovakia) 17-15 15-2. N Santoja (Netherlands) beat C Anderson (Denmark) 11-15 17-14 15-4. K Jolly (England) beat V Johansson (Sweden) 17-15 15-4. J-P Nierhoff (Denmark) beat H Klauer (West Germany) 15-5 15-2. N Yates (England) beat M Richards (Wales) 15-7 15-6. T Kihlstroem (Sweden) beat T Kuenstler (West Germany) 15-3 15-3.

TENNIS

Top seed Whichello suffers in silence

By Lewine Mair

Richard Whichello bowed out of the junior hard court championships, sponsored by Prudential, without a murmur at Edgbaston Archery Club yesterday. How times have changed. Once upon a time such a reverse for this most gifted of players was guaranteed to be a noisy affair.

Whichello, the top seed, lost 3-6, 2-6, in the quarter finals to Paul Coyle of Essex. The first points went to Coyle and, though the Kent boy produced the occasional flash of brilliance, he never recovered fully.

Coyle paved the way to success with some spanking services which he delivered from his large-headed racket. He rallied well and refused to become upset when, in the first and then the second set, Whichello began to make a comeback.

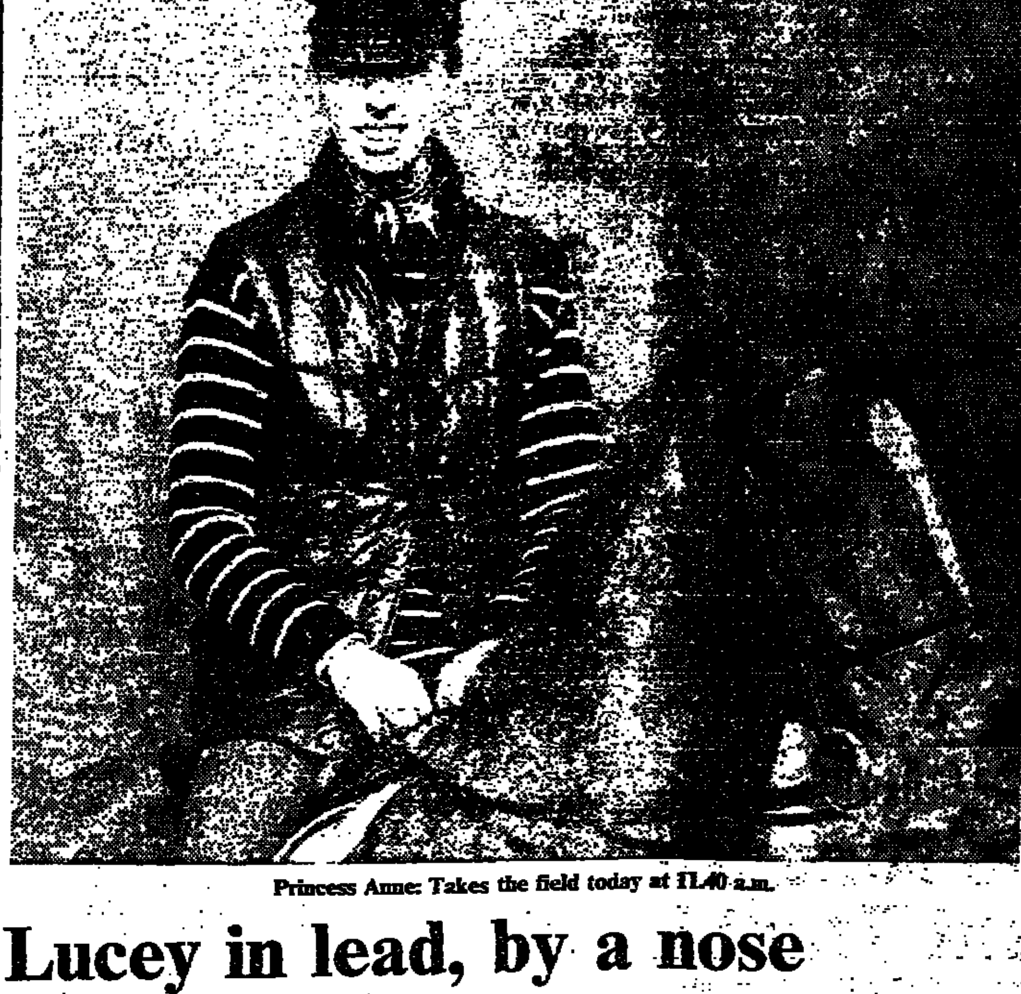
Whichello dismissed suggestions that he was too subdued for his own good. "Simply an off day," he said, claiming that he plays better when he stays calm. Following comments from Paul Hutchings, the LTA's national team manager, who said that his 16-and-under boys were not sufficiently professional at Wimbledon last week, Whichello was doubly anxious not to put a foot wrong.

For Seamus Tucker, who defeated the seeded Jason Goodall on Wednesday, nothing went right. Having practised at the club first thing, he took a bus back to his accommodation to collect a reserve pair of shoes. He returned late for his match and rushed on court only to lose 3-6, 3-6 against Sean Cole. Cole meets Coyle this morning while, in the other semi-final, Ben Knapp faces Peter Moore.

The most interesting match among the girls was the one in which Siobhan Nicholson mastered Julie Went's top spin and, after taking the first set 6-2, was at her best in winning the second 6-1.

BOYS' SINGLES: P Coyle (Essex) beat R Whichello (Kent) 6-3, 6-2; S Cole (Surrey) beat S Tucker (Devon) 6-3, 6-3; B Knapp (Gloucestershire) beat R Jeffreys (Middlesex) 6-0, 4-6, 6-2; P Moore (Surrey) beat M Walker (N Wales) 5-7, 7-5, 6-2.
GIRLS' SINGLES: J Louis (Devon) beat J Smith (Yorkshire) 6-4, 6-4; S Longbottom (Yorkshire) beat A Brasher (Surrey) 6-3, 6-1; S Nicholson (Surrey) beat J Went (Avon) 6-3, 6-1; B Borneo (Bedfordshire) beat C Gillies (Hampshire) 7-5, 6-1.

EQUESTRIANISM



Princess Anne: Takes the field today at 11.40 a.m.

Lucey in lead, by a nose

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Having held the early lead on the first day of the dressage at the Badminton horse trials yesterday, the former junior European champion, Virginia Holgate and Priceless lost their standing, but not their advantage, by a mere 0.4 of a point to Miranda Lucey, on The Dark Imp. Mrs Lucey, better known as Miranda Frank, won the Midlands Bank Novice Championship in 1978 on Halstar and also rode Touch and Go with considerable success.

Ginny Holgate and Priceless, who last September charted the cross country course in the European championships at Horsens, in Denmark, so magnificently for her team-mates, are lying second, three points ahead of Angela Tucker on Willow Pattern. Disputing fourth place are Rachel Bayliss, whose Gurgle the Greek remains her most famous horse, and who is now on the young Cuthbert the Celt, and Rosemary Anderson, from Leicestershire, on Westway II. Colin Wares is lying sixth on Yukon Melody, and has made a good start to fulfilling the ambition of his owner, Mrs Olive Jackson, to own both the winner of the Cheltenham Gold Cup (Midnight Court) and Badminton.

Half the field have now completed their tests and the rest will be led at 9 am today by Brice Davicson of Hte United States on Might Tango, on whom he won the world championships in 1978. Princess Anne with The Queen's Stevie B, takes the fiels at 11.40, Captain Mark Phillips rides the Midlands Bank Novice champion of 1980, Classic Lines, at 2.40, and Lucinda Prior-Palmer-reen starts Regal Realm at 5.20. Bruce Davidson virtually brings up the rear with J. J. Babu.

Three horses — Martin Bewick's Schweppes, Gillian Fleming-Watson's Rescator and Simon Rogerson's ride from Scotland, St Fillans, was spun at the first veterinary inspection on Wednesday and the fiels now numbers 79. There are already considerable crowds here enjoying the beautiful sunshine as they walk the cross-country course where all the action will centre on Saturday, and few are regretting the fact that they will be cast in the role of spectators and not being called upon to tackle fences such as the framatic alerations to the Slide, which now has a fallen tree at the top and resembles a ski jump, with the additional complications of the Chevrons at the bottom.

One rider who made a very bad start to his three-day eventing career, though, was Jim Fow, the Olympic modern pentathlon gold medallist. Fox, competing at Badminton for the first time, scd a disastrous 84 points on his horse Finisterre. He said: "I must have provided the judges with some light amusement."

Results: Dressage. 1, Mrs M Lucey's The Dark Imp (45 penalty points); 2, Miss V Holgate's Priceless (45.4); 3, Mrs M Tucker's Willow Pattern (48.8); equal 4, Miss R Bayliss's Cuthbert The Celt and Mrs R Anderson's Westway II (53.4); 6, Mrs G Jackson's Yukon Melody (C Wares) (54).

GOLF

Tunisian opens his shoulders

From John Hennessey, Golf Correspondent, Port El Kantaoui, April 15

There have been some suprising leaders on the first day of a professional golf tournament across the years, but rarely, surely, one as utterly unexpected as Ben Nacr, who shares the top place in the Tunisian Open championship with Keith Williams after a round of 70, two under par, here today. Four experienced challengers lie in wait a stroke behind — Brian Waites and Mark James, of England, Des Smyth, of Ireland, and Antonio Garrido, of Spain.

Williams is an assistant at Sunningdale, one among hundreds of his kind at home. Ben Nacr, on the other hand is unique, the only golf professional in Tunisia, where, until the opening of the El Kantaoui last year, the only course in the country was a 4,000-yard job at Carthage. It was there that Ben Nacr developed his game, so far as that was possible on terrain that, apparently, is more sand than turf, with "greens" manufactured from oiled sand.

El Kantaoui, created under the guidance of Peter Thomson, is a genuine grass course, so that Ben Nacr cannot be said to have been at an advantage in conditions alien to orthodox golfers. the reverse is the truth, and he has, as yet, no natural feel for the short game. But he has natural power, generated by a muscular frame, and is longer, some believe, even than Sandy Lyle. A good drive, he reckons, would cover 280 to 290 yards. Thus he welcomed the relief from his own Carthage straitjacket to open his powerful shoulders over 7,117 yards.

Ben Nacr has played in only one previous European tour event, the French Open of 1974, where he achieved a modest ambition by surviving the qualifying competition. Now he stands on the threshold of something much bigger, though in the nature of things, we might expect him to retreat into the pack after his moment of glory.

The conditions today were difficult, with a wind change strong enough for Williams to take a one-iron at the 166-yard 13th, where he had used an 8-iron in Wednesday's pro-am. He played solid, dependable golf, offsetting three putts on the seventh with three birdies elsewhere. He was the only player to reduce the difficult fourth (460 yards) to a three-iron, thanks to a holed chip shot.

Howard Clark, on the other hand, suffered an eight there, thanks partly to some indifferent golf, and partly to a laudable display of integrity. He discovered near the green that he had played the wrong ball for his second, a ball meeting all the specifications of his tee shot except for the dimple pattern. Golf is becoming that sophisticated.

LEADING SCORES: 70: Ben Nacr (Tunisia), K Williams; 71: D Smyth, M James, B Waites, A Garrido (Spain); 72: E Murray, G Brand (senior), M Damiano (France), C Mason; 73: B Barnes, R Rafferty, G Logan, S Martin, T Johnstone (Zimbabwe), M Pinero (Spain) P Thomas. Other scores: 74: S Lyle, K Brown, P Way; 75: M Calero (Spain); 76: G Brand (junior), H Clark, S Torrance, P Chapman.

Nothing but the best for England

From Peter Ryde, Paris, April 15

English amateur golfers renew an old rivalry with France here tomorrow. France's oldest international match, which started in 1934, was discontinued in 1962. The English captain on that occasion was Michael Bonallack and Jean-Louis Dupont now president of the host club, was a member of the opposing team. So, too, was Roger Lagarde, the only surviving player from either of those two teams. It is thus a memorable as well as a competitive occasion.

Although England inflicted a heavy defeat on France in the Europen team championship at St Andrews last June, they have sent the best team they can lay hands on, aware that France are, at present, the strongest continental country, who led the strokeplay section at St Andrews and who also defeated a six man Scottish team last year. Four of last year's European team have come over, Peter McEvoy, Peter Deeble, Geoffrey Godwin and Richard Boxall. The team is completed by the Walker Cup veteran Michael Kelley, Malcolm Lewis, Walker Cup reserve last year, David Blakeman, English champion, and two newcomers to international golf Stephen Keppler and David Ray who reached the semi-finalist round in the English championship last year.

France are headed by the British amateur champion Philippe Ploujoux, back from a visit to the United States culminating in the Masters tournament in which he scored moderately but had the exhilaration of being paired with Arnold Palmer. Perhaps their strongest and certainly their youngest player is François Illouz. These are supported by Alexis Godillot, champion of the host club for the past three years, Roger Lagarde who, if enthusiasm was the yardstick of skill would assuredly play top, Herve Frayssineau, Sven Boinet and Jean-Claude Gassiat. In the absence of Tim Planchin, who turned professional a few weeks ago, France also have turned to new blood to complete their team. Gerard Bourdy is from Bordeaux and Jacques Lebreton from Paris.

The course is boldly carved out of a forest pregnant with spring. It may be true that there are more racehorses than golfers in this area but the course, 7,150 yards, is of true championship quality.

Here Peter Oosterhuis won the second of his two French championships in 1974 but the club is better attuned to the amateur scene and next year will act as host to the European team championship. The rough lacks growth but the putting surfaces are well advanced in spite of a winter of frost.

Deeble was reported to be fit after having an X-ray examination on his neck. The draw for the first day, the format of which will be repeated on Saturday is:

FOURSOMES: D Blakeman and P McEvoy v P Ploujoux and F Illouz; P Deeble and M Lewis v J Lebreton and G Bourdy; R Boxall and M J Kelley v H Frayssineau and J-C Gassiat; S Keppler and G Godwin v R Lagarde and A Godillot.
SINGLES: Blakeman v Ploujoux; McEvoy v Illouz; Lewis v S Boinet; Boxall v Lebreton; Deeble v Bourdy; D Ray v Frayssineau; Kelley v Gassiat; Godwin v Godillot.

Putting the Steve Ovett record straight

A complex individual with endearing charm

It takes nerve to write a biography about someone without talking to them, so Simon Turnbull deserves full marks for that alone in undertaking *Steve Ovett: Portrait of an Athlete* (W. H. Allen, £6.95).

He sets the record straight in an author's note: "I had hoped Steve Ovett would cooperate in writing this biography but unfortunately he did not feel able to do so."

The book, understandably, suffers from this. It is full of Ovett talking to everyone, it seems, other than Simon Turnbull. Turnbull, aged 20, a journalist in the North East, has sent a copy to Ovett, anyway. "I'd like a reaction from him, but I don't think I'll get one," he says. "It can't be very nice having a biography written about you if you don't want it."

Turnbull, a fan of Ovett's, adds: "I spoke to a lot of people, and I used a lot of cuttings, mainly just for his quotes."

The author sets the scene of Ovett, the private and highly complex individual, and then trails the runner's development, from the age of five. He analyzes the shallow characterisations of the Press: the Mr Nice Guy image of Sebastian Coe, Ovett's great middle distance rival, and the Mr Nasty tag on Ovett himself.

Behind this facade lies the real Steve Ovett, and the book is at its most interesting where Turnbull relates the charity work the runner does, particularly for handicapped children. There was a visit to hospital to see a 10-year-old spina bifida patient, and the handing over of Ovett's Olympic medals as good luck charms until after the boy's operation.

The author quotes Ron Pickering, the television commentator: "There is not one British athlete who has ever given more to the handicapped than Steve Ovett. he is the sort of person who doesn't support charities at arm's length. He is involved with those kids, picking them up, carrying them and getting to know them."

It is a side of Ovett's character well known in the athletics world, but perhaps not fully enough appreciated elsewhere. Readers of this book will, at least, know better.

Paul Harrison

Pearce out of the picture

Gary Pearce, of Newport, the 21-year-old Welsh champion, lost a great chance to put himself in the British welterweight title picture when he was knocked out in six rounds by Colin Powers at the Lyceum, London. The end came as a shock, for Pearce had given a good account of himself and put Powers under heavy pressure for much of the contest. It was not until the final couple of minutes, in fact, that Powers ever looked likely to turn the tables.

□ Tony Adams, a 19-year-old jeweller, is in line for the light welterweight crown at the ABA finals, sponsored by George Wimpey, at Wembley on May 7. Adams, a Londoner, earned the right to meet Coventry's Clyde McIntosh with another quick win in the semi-finals at Preston. Adams stopped Alistair Laurie, of Selkirk, in the first round. But Adams will find McIntosh a harder man. The Coventry lightwelter gained a majority decision over David Griffiths, of Wales.

□ Gerry Duddy, flyweight, and Ken Beattie, welterweight, two of Northern Ireland's best hopes for gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in Australia later this year, are included in the Irish amateur boxing team to face Scotland in Dundee next Wednesday.

Team: Light-flyweight: A O'Neill, fly: G Duddy, bantam: P Fitzgerald, feather: S Thompson, light: P Ormond, light-welter: S Friel, welter: K Beattie, light-middle: T Corr, middle: J Shortall, light-heavy: J Thornton, heavy: D Mitchell.

□ The on-again, off-again World Boxing Association lightweight title fight between the champion Arturo Frias and Ray Mancini has been set for May 8 in Las Vegas.

Top athletes for Japan

Tokyo, April 15.— American, West German and Hungarian athletes will compete in three international track and field meetings in Japan during May, the Japan Amateur Federation said today.

The nine foreign athletes include runners Mike Marlow, of the United States, and Hans-Juergen Orthmann, of West Germany, and triple jumper Bela Bakosi of Hungary. Among the Women competitors will be runner Ellen Wessinghage, of West Germany, and high jumpers Katalin Sterk, of Hungary, and Birgit Dressell, of West Germany.

The meetings will be held in Kobe on May 2, Hiroshima on May 5 and Tokyo on May 9.

Humberside in good form

Humberside showed good form in beating Hereford and Worcester 5—1, Paswe scoring two of their goals, on the second day of the Festival of Football, sponsored by Gillette, at Skegness yesterday. South Yorkshire recorded their second win by beating Bedfordshire 2—1 in a keenly contested match. The Public Schools XI were two goals up in four minutes against Kent and went on to win 4—0.

RESULTS: Humberside 5, Hereford and Worcester 1; South Yorkshire 2, Bedfordshire 1; Public Schools 4, Kent 0; Cumbria 2, Buckinghamshire 2; Derbyshire A 1, North Yorkshire 0; Cleveland 0, Herefordshire A 2; Staffordshire 0, Middlesex A 2; Essex A 2, West Midlands A 3; Dorset 1, Nottinghamshire 0; Inner London B 1, Greater Manchester B 3; Norfolk B 1, Hampshire B 4; Shropshire B 2, Avon B 1; Festival XI 6, Merseyside B 1.

Bitcherova leads

Moscow, April 15. — The World gymnastics champion, Olga Bitcherova, 15, will lead the Soviet team which meets the United States in Florida on Saturday and Sunday. The team includes Alla Mysnik, the bronze medallist at the European Championships. — AFP.

McCool back home

Russel McCool, 22, a leg-spin bowler who was in the New South Wales squad last winter, has clinched a summer contract with Somerset. Son of the former Australian Test all-rounder, Colin McCool, he was born in Taunton during his father's Somerset career.

University clash

Oxford meet Cambridge in the second university amateur Rugby League match at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre on April 25.

Wilkie honoured

British swimmer David Wilkie, gold medallist in the 200m breaststroke at the 1976 Olympic Games, has been admitted to America's Swimming Hall of Fame, at Fort Lauderdale, in Florida. Nine other swimmers were also admitted on the same day.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOURTH DIVISION: Stockport County v York City (7.30).
CROQUET: South of England championships (Eastbourne).
RACKETS: Caledon Open singles (Queen's Club, West Kensington).

WEDNESDAYS RESULTS

First division

TOTTENHAM (2) 2 Galvin, Hoddle — SUNDERLAND (0) 2 Rowell (pen), Pickering. 39,898

Third divison

PLYMOUTH (0) 2 Nisbet, Sims — WIMBLEDON (0) 0. 4,748

Scottish premier division

ABERDEEN (0) 4 Rougvie 2, Simpson, Strachan — ST MIRREN (0) 1 McAvennie
AIRDRIE (1) 1 Clark (pen) — CELTIC (2) 5 McCluskey, Provan, Aitken, Crainie, Reid (pen)
DUNDEE (2) 3 Stephen, Ferguson, Strachan — RANGERS (1) 1 McDonald
MORTON (0) 2 Cochrane, Hutcheson — HIBERNIAN (0) 1 Jamieson
PARTICK (1) 2 Jardine, Watson — DUNDEE UNITED (2) 3 Dodds 3

Scottish first division

AYR (1) 4 McInally 2, Ward, Ahern (pen) — MOTHERWELL (2) 3 Irvine 2, Clelland
CLYDEBANK (?) 1 Given — HEARTS (3) 5 Byrne, Pettigrew 4
DUMBARTON (0) 1 Craig — QUEENS PARK (0) 0
QUEEN of S. (0) 0 — DUNFERMLINE (2) 3 Nichol, Burly, Jenkins

Scottish second division

CLYDE (1) 1 Masterton — BRECHIN (0) 0
FORFAR (2) 3 Gallacher, Allan, Brash (pen) — ALBION (0) 0

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: Addlestone 0, Crawley 0; Andover 1, Basingstoke 3; Folkestone 2, Tonbridge 0; Hastings 2, Chelmsford 1. Cup final, second

HUNGARIAN LEAGUE: Vasas 2, Ferencvaros 4; Szeged 2, Ozd 1; Nyiregyhaza 3, Kisgyor 0; Szombathely 1, Pecs 2; Volan 1, Tatabanya 3; Ujpest Dozsa 2, Debrecen 3; Raba Eto 4, Csepel 0; Videoton 1, Bekescsaba 4; Zalaegerszeg 1, Budapest Honved 1.
INTERNATIONALS: Argentina 1, USSR 1 (at Buenos Aires); The Netherlands 1, Greece 0 (at Eindhoven); Milan Select XI 0, Peru 2.

YESTERDAY'S RESULT

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace 1, Bristol Rovers 2.

FOR THE RECORD

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New Jersey Nets 98, Washington Bullets 94; Chicago bulls 120, New York Knicks 116; Boston Celtics 100, Milwaukee Bucks 91; Philadelphia 76-ers 119, Detroit Pistons 111; Kansas City Kings 114, Dallas Mavericks 95; Phoenix Suns 104, San Antonio Spurs 92; Denver Nuggets 141, Houston Rockets 122; Golden State Warriors 104, Seattle Supersonics 93; Los Angeles Lakers 128, Utah Jazz 115.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland Indians 6, Milwaukee Brewers 2; Chicago White Sox 5, Boston Red Sox 4; Toronto Blue Jays 5, Detroit Tigers 4; Texas Rangers 4, New York Yankees 1; Kansas City Royals 4, Baltimore Orioles 3; Oakland A's 7, Minnesota Twins 6; California Angels 2, Seattle Mariners 1.

PRESTON: British ABA semi-finals: Light flyweight: J McBride (England) beat R Carroll (Scotland), points; J Lyon (England) beat W Lenan (Wales), stopped first round. Flyweight: J Dawson (England) beat W Barton (Wales), points; J Kelly (Scotland) beat J Hyland (England), points. Bantamweight: A Clowely (England) beat D Monkhouse (Scotland), stopped first round; R Gilbody (England) beat R Dickie (Wales), points. Featherweight: D Kenny (England) beat P Downie (Scotland), disqualified second; H Henry (England) beat A Borg (Wales), points. Lightweight: J McDonell (England) beat A Dickson (Scotland), points; G Felvus (England) beat J Alsop (Wales) points. Light welterweight: C McIntosh (England) beat D Griffiths (Wales), points; T Adams (England) beat A Laurie (Scotland), stopped first round. Welterweight: C Pyatt (England) beat H McAllister (Scotland), points; A McKenley (England) beat M McDaid (Wales), points. Light middleweight: M Patrick (England) beat G Gesbin, (Wales), knockout first round; D Milligan (Scotland) beat R Thomas (England), points. Middleweight: C Harrison (Scotland) beat A Thomas (England), points; J Price (England) beat P Lewis (Wales), points. Light heavyweight: G Crawford (England) beat S Williams (Scotland), points; B Parkes (England) beat A Blackstock (Wales), stopped second round. Heavyweight: H Notice (England) beat J Brown (Scotland), points; H Hylton (England) beat A Hakmin (Wales), stopped third round. Super heavyweight: A Elliott (England) beat S Morris (Wales), points.

TENNIS

HOUSTON: World Championship Tennis tournament, first round (US unless stated): I Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat H Saviano 6-3, 6-2; J-L Clerc (Argentina) beat S Glickstein 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; J Higueras (Spain) beat M Edmondson (Australia) 6-4, 6-7, 6-2; P McNamara (Australia) beat J Lopez-Maeso (Spain) 6-3, 6-1; S Denton beat F Gonzalez (Puerto Rico) 6-7, 6-2, 7-6; Mayotte beat Moor 7-6, 6-4; V Pecci (Uruguay) beat V Amritraj (India) 6-3, 5-7, 6-0.
LOS ANGELES: Pacific Southwest tournament, first round (US unless stated): Connors beat H Solomon 6-1, 2-6, 6-4; Tanner beat J Austin 7-6, 6-4; P Teacher beat C Dunk 6-0, 7-6. Second Round: M Davis beat W Scanlon 6-3, 7-5; V Amaya beat 4-6 rtd.

Pearce out of the picture

Top athletes for Japan

Humberside in good form

Bitcherova leads

McCool back home

University clash

Wilkie honoured

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

RACING: FRED DARLING STAKES FEATURED AT NEWBURY

Stratospheric's classic hopes set to soar

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

After three riveting days at Newmarket the spotlight switches to Newbury, where there will be some equally interesting racing both today and tomorrow. The sight of the current 2,000 Guineas favourite, Wind and Wuthering, Montekin and Cajun clashing in the Greenham Stakes and a glimpse of such classy older horses as Glint of Gold, Centroline, Critique, Amyndas and Bedford doing battle in the John Porter Stakes should be sufficient to satisfy even the most hungry appetite tomorrow.

Today is the turn of the three-year-old fillies to steal the limelight again. Following the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket yesterday the Fred Darling Stakes is anothr important fillies' classic trial. Some will be disappointed that there are only six runners but it is a field of quality rather than quantity. What is fascinating is that all six runners are in there with a good chance. Two years ago, Quick as Lightning finished only third in this trial, but she still did enough to convince many onlookers that she could win the 1,000 Guineas a fortnight later which she duly did.

Now it is the turn of her younger half-sister Stratospheric to stake her claim. Last season she ran two races which suggested that she could reach classic standard. The first was at Goodwood in August when she made all the running to win the Waterford Candelabra Stakes. Then at Ascot in September she was beaten only half a length by Height of Fashion in the Hoover Fillies Mile. In that event Stratospheric finished half a length in front of the third Zinzara who is one of her opponents this afternoon. Stratospheric was giving Zinzara 4lb that day. As they will be carrying the same weight this afternoon the advantage now lies with Stratospheric who is my selection. Yesterday her trainer, John Bunlop, assured me she is in sparkling form.

If ever a filly was bred to win a classic it is surely Barry Hill's runner, Slightly Dangerous, who is by the 1972 Derby winner, Roberto, out of a daughter of Noblesse who won the Oaks in 1963. Slightly Dangerous made a collossally good impression at Ascot in the Autumn when she won the Duke of Edinburgh Stakes with her head on her chest. But like the majority of Hill's horses she may well need this race. Furthermore, she was found to be caste in her box on Wednesday morning. She was alright to work on the gallops yesterday, but Hills will wait until this morning whether to risk running her.

Bless The Match had her limitations exposed in the Cheveley Park stakes in which she could finish only fifth. She is by one sprinter So Blessed out of a daughter of another, Matador. Furthermore, all her half-sisters and brothers have been sprinters. In the circumstances no one should be surprised if seven furlongs finds her out.

Ecstatica and Jade Ring, the other two runners, are both maidens and as such they are at a disadvantage with the previous winners weightwise. But both are clearly a cut above average. Ecstatica ran with a lot of promise at Salisbury last September when she was runner-up to the more experienced Dawn Ditty, while Jade Ring did equally well to finish second to Zinzara's stable companion, Dancing Rocks in the Blue Seal stakes at Ascot later in the month.

Now that the Spring Maiden Stakes has had to be divided, today's programme has been extended by one race. You will not find many better bred horses than Crusader Castle.

Crusader Castle ran with sufficient promise in one race at Ascot last autumn to suggest that a prize of this nature should be within his grasp this year. Likewise Burgundy, who is by Bustino, ran well enough in the race won by Paridis Terrestre at Ascot last October to indicate that he can win the second division.

Most of the runners for the Beckhampton Maiden Stakes have not set foot on a racecourse, but one who has at least had some experience of racing is Richard Hannon's Maariv, who started slowly at Kempton Park last Saturday. He will know more of what is expected of him now. Bellamoni, who is by that promising sire Godswalk and Back'Hus Boy by another sprinter Workboy, are two newcomers to note. I took a liking to Back'Hus Boy when I saw him at Pulborough last month and he is my choice.



It's Piggott again as Chalon (left) holds Merlin's Charm's challenge by half a length.

Newbury programme

Tote Double: 3.00 and 4.00. Treble: 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30.

2.0 BECKENHAMPTON STAKES (2-y-o colts and geldings: maidens: £2,215: 5f) (13 runners)

101 0 AIR CADET (Mrs H Edwards) W Wightman 9-0 ... E Johnson 5
102 AVERON (R Cleland) C Wildman 9-0 ... D Dineley 12
103 BACK'HUS BOY (Mrs D Abbott) G Harwood 9-0 ... B Raymond 2
104 BELLAMONTI (R Sangster) B Hills 9-0 ... S Cauthen 10
105 BETTER BOY (F Warren) P Ashworth 9-0 ... J Matthias 11
109 4 MAARIV (C Gaventa) R Hannon 9-0 ... J Mercer 9
110 MELCOMBE REGIS (M Stewkesbury) M McCormack 9-0 ... R Oxland 13
113 NUNSWOOD (F Jenkins) P Cole 9-0 ... J Reid 6
114 PRINCE SPY (S Powell) J Sutcliffe 9-0 ... P Eddery 4
115 RIDGE HEIGHTS (H Oppenheimer) H Candy 9-0 ... W Newnes 3
116 SHELDAN (R Sack) S Mellor 9-0 ... M Wigham 7
118 TIMSAH (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) C Benstead 9-0 ... W R Swinburn 1
119 VALERIAN (R Bonnycastle) B Hills 9-0 ... R Street 8

11-4 Back'hus Boy, 7-2 Bellamonti, 9-2 Prince Spy, 11-2 Maariv, 7 Nunswood, 8 Ridge Heights, 12 Timsah, 20 others.

2.30 SPRING STAKES (Div I: 3-y-o maidens: £2,582: 1m 3f) (15)

202 0 BALOYD (E Jameson) W Musson 9-0 ... P Robinson 3
204 BROKEN HILL (R Lambert) P Cundell 9-0 ... J Johnson 13
207 03- CRUSADER CASTLE (P Mellon) I Balding 9-0 ... J Matthias 10
209 2- DAWN RAID (Mrs P Cole) P Cole 9-0 ... J Reid 12
210 00- FITZPATRICK (A Oldrey) P Walwyn 9-0 ... J Mercer 4
212 HIGHAM HILL (Parrish Bros Ltd) D Gandolfo 9-0 ... W Newnes 8
217 00- NORTH BRITON (J Morrison) J Tree 9-0 ... P Eddery 9
218 0- ORATION (Mrs J de Rothschild) B Hobbs 9-0 ... B Raymond 7
219 0- PARISIO (C St George) J Hindley 9-0 ... B Taylor 14
221 00- ROYAL GLOW (C Bruce-Joy) M McCourt 9-0 ... P Tulk 1
222 40- SIX CLUBS (M Scott) R Sheather 9-0 ... R Cochrane 6
227 00- ARIADNE (Sir R Cohen) J Dunlop 8-11 ... W Carson 15
228 BASTA (J T Pavenstedt) G Pritchard-Gordon 8-11 ... G Duffield 5
229 0- FREEWAY FOLLY (R Bonnycastle) B Hills 8-11 ... S Cauthen 2
230 00- FULL OF LOVE (R Popely) D Elsworth 8-11 ... W R Swinburn 11

5-2 Crusader Castle, 4 North Briton, 5 Dawn Raid, 6 Parisio, 7 Freeway Folly, 8 Oration, 10 Ariadne, 16 others.

3.0 CHIEVELEY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,892: 5f) (7)

301 204210- TO THE POINT (D) (R Sangster) G Hunter 9-7 ... S Cauthen 1
302 23140-0 STREET MARKET (D) (G Tuck) N Vigors 9-7 ... S Dawson 7 7
303 122530- MISS TRILLI (D) (Miss D Birkbeck) G P-Gordon 9-1 ... M Rimmer 3 4
304 0010- RITUAL DANCE (D) (F Free) B Hanbury 8-10 ... B Raymond 5
305 00410- WELWYN (D) (E Hill) C Benstead 8-6 ... W R Swinburn 3
306 22140-0 KASH-IN (D) (G Mytton) R Hannon 8-5 ... A McGlone 5 6
307 10011-0 PREPARATION (D) (Ld McAlpine) R Smyth 8-3 ... — 2

... Trilli, 7 Kash-in, 8 Ritual Dance, ...

3.30 FRED DARLING STAKES (Group 3: 3-y-o fillies: £11,876: 7f)

... G Duffield 1 / ... J Reid 3 / ... P Young 2 / ... S Cauthen 5 / ... W Carson 6 / ... P Eddery 4

... Bless The Match, 10 Jade Ring.

4.0 THATCHAM HANDICAP (£2,599: 2m) (13)

501 312132/ SLIGO BAY (D) (M Wills) R Houghton 5-10-0 ... J Reid 10
503 03020-2 WEAVER'S PIN (D) (Maj L Sward) M Francis 5-9-10 ... J Mercer 9
504 30/4230 RUN HARD (H Joel) R Turnell 7-9-9 ... L Piggott 6
505 000000- SHADEY DOVE (J Price) G H Price 8-9-0 ... — 1
506 0010-0 MORGANS CHOICE (C Hill) C Hill 5-8-11 ... W Carson 13
507 0022-42 DUTCH PRINCESS (L Fuller) Miss A Sinclair 4-8-10 ... R Still 12
508 000000- HANS BRINKER (D) (Guinea Grill Stakes) I Wardle 7-8-9 ... P Eddery 11
509 111100/ BOTANIST (D) (Exors of late H Gray) G Balding 9-8-9 ... W Newnes 4
510 202123- LE GRAN BRUN (D Elton) P Cundell 4-8-5 ... S Cauthen 3
511 01001-3 TEA-POT (D) (Mrs M Smith) M Blanshard 6-8-3 ... 5

4.30 STROUD GREEN HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,277: 1m) (18)

5.0 SPRING STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o maidens: £2,582: 1m 3f) (14)

206 00- BURGUNDY (I Cameron) P Walwyn 9-0 ... J Mercer 14
208 40- DAWNBALLET (P Goulandris) H Candy 9-0 ... W Newnes 7
214 0- LE LEVADOR (W Morecombe) M Blanshard 9-0 ... — 6
215 0- LIZMOR (Mrs R Chaplin) I Balding 9-0 ... J Matthias 9
220 00- PROBABILIST (W Gredley) B Hills 9-0 ... S Cauthen 2
224 SONADA (J Pyke) P Mitchell 9-0 ... W R Swinburn 4
225 00- SPRINGWELL LANE (C Drinkwater) H Price 9-0 ... A Proud 3
226 0- STEP DANCE (S Niarchos) J Tree 9-0 ... P Eddery 8
231 H AND K GAMBLER (E Kirtland) D Gandolfo 8-11 ... J Reid 13
233 0- HEATHER'S REEF (J Mabee) G Huffer 8-11 ... M Miller 5
234 0- LA GAVINA (G Benney) W Wightman 8-11 ... E Johnson 12
235 4a RADFIELD (Mrs W Silvester) P Cundell 8-11 ... I Johnson 11

9-4 Step Dance, 4 Dawnballet, 5 Bugle Boy, 6 Burgundy, 8 Springwell Lane, 10 Probablist, 12 Lizmor, 20 others.

Newbury selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

2.0 Back'Hus Boy. 2.30 Crusader Castle. 3.0 Preparation. 3.30 Stratospheric. 4.0 Weavers Pin. 4.30 The Ripleyite. 5.0 Burgundy.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Dasta. 3.0 Miss Trilli. 3.30 Zinzara. 4.30 Oxslip. 5.0 Airborne Deal.

Gay George in champion form

At Ayr this afternoon Gay George can make amends for his defeat by Birds Nest in last year's Scottish Champion Hurdle by winning this coveted prize for Fulke Walwyn, Michael Seely writes.

Gay George is not far short of championship class when the ground is riding fast. At Liverpool, the Duke of Devonshire's six-year-old showed all his old fire and dash when sprinting away from Fra Mau and China God. Fra Mau was going extremely well when failing at the second last in the Welsh Champion Hurdle at Chepstow last Monday.

The remarkable Holemoor Star is maintaining his form despite a busy and successful season. But it would be surprising if he could beat Gay George at level weights.

The 1980 Royal Doulton Hurdle winner, No Bombs, will probably pose the chief threat. This versatile horse also loves to hear his hooves rattle on firm going.

Twinburn is coming over from Ireland for this race while Little Bay reverts to hurdles after his extraordinary victory over Western Rose in the Sunratings Chase at Aintree. Little Bay has the ability to be an effective force, but Gay George is a firm selection.

□ Anaglogs Daughter, one of Ireland's top steeplechasers until a recent leg injury forced her retirement after winning 17 races, is to be mated with 2,000 Guineas winner Tap On Wood, now standing at the Irish National Stud.

Cecil hammers home a point of strength

By Michael Seely

The victories of Chalon and Ivano at Newmarket yesterday hammered home the point that Henry Cecil has enormous strength in depth in his three-year-old team. But just how good the two winners are is anybody's guess at present.

Chalon provided an 8-1 surprise when beating Merlins Charm in the Ladbrokes Nell Gwyn Stakes. Ivano, on the other hand, justified heavy market support when just managing to hold off the determined challenge of Electric in the Gerry Fevilden Memorial Stakes.

With so many important classic trials still to come, Cecil was understandably keeping his cards close to his chest. "Chalon is by no means certain to run in the 1,000 Guineas. Quite honestly I was a bit surprised today. Given time, she will make a nice filly."

The trainer echoed this in his comments on Ivano. "He did it well, but I don't want to commit myself about future plans," he said. It may be dull for us news hawks, but the evidence of yesterday's races was indeed too inconclusive for any trainer to make instant judgments.

Chalon took the lead off the front-running Vaigly Star at the top of the hill and then resisted the late attack of Merlins Charm. Running on Gamely, the Habitat filly won by half a length, with Triple Tipple three lengths away third. Merlins Charm's performance was full of promise, and the 10-1 on offer against Robert Sangster's filly for the 1,000 Guineas will probably be taken.

When first asked to go about her business, the filly was slow to respond and ran green. However, she was striding out well up the hill, and is sure to have derived considerable benefit from the race. "My horses are not quite firing yet," said Barry Hills, "but Merlins Charm will definitely come back here for the Guineas".

The Lambourn trainer has three other fillies with classic potential — Slightly Dangerous (who, all being well, will take on Stratospheric in this afternoon's Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury), Current Pattie and Last Feather. "Current Pattie is the most backward of the quartet at present," said Hills.

Sangster said that his 2,000 Guineas candidate, Achieved, is going for the Tetrach Stakes at The Curragh tomorrow. "Golden Fleece, who is potentially the best horse in Vincent O'Brien's stable, will also run the same afternoon," he said. "That is why we are missing the Greenham with Achieved, as we want Pat Eddery to ride both horses."

Michael Stoute's filly Circus Ring, is now top-quoted at 15-8 with Ladbrokes for the first of the fillies' classics. Circus Ring worked well on the Limekilns on Wednesday morning and satisfied her trainer. "She is coming to hand and I am pleased with her," he said. "It all depends on how she goes on in the next fortnight. You cannot rush fillies."

Circus Ring retains her formidable powers of acceleration. If all goes according the plan, the favourite will be the one they all will have to beat on April 29.

Whatever mystery surrounds the classic scene at present, there can be no doubt that Brondesbury is an exceptionally fast two-year-old. Bill O'Gorman's Welsh Saint colt shot out of the stalls in the Granby Stakes as if jet-propelled, and had his race won before the field had covered a furlong.

"We'll probably come back here for a race at the Guineas meeting", said O'Gorman. "Then we're bound for either the Coventry or Norfolk Stakes at Royal Ascot."

It was good to see Peter Walwyn leaning nonchalantly against the rails in the unsaddling enclosure after Joe Mercer had ridden Music Lover to a decisive victory in the Ladbrokes Boldboy Sprint Handicap. The smile is gradually returning to the face of the tiger of Seven Barrows. "I didn't think he was that forward, and he obviously has another race or two in him", he said. He added that last year's Cesarewitch winner, Halsbury, would next run either in the Chester Cup or the Sagaro Stakes at the next Ascot meeting.

Although Doug Francis's transport firm has brought hundreds of horses to Newmarket, the Cheshire trainer has never before saddled a runner at the races. However, yesterday his first arrow landed right on target when Star Burst sprinted to a convincing victory in the second round of the Crown Plus Two Apprentice Championship.

Francis's small stable has a remarkable record at the major meetings

Newmarket results

2.0 (2.01) GRANBY STAKES (2-y-o: £2,718: 5f)

BRONDESBURY b c by Welsh Saint — Whistling Tudor (A Foustok) 9-4 T Ives (10-11 fav) 1
Shanleys Style ... T Rogers (11-2) 2
Amerone ... B Crossley (9-4) 3

TOTE: Win, 15p. Dual Forecast: 31p. CSF: 59p W O Gorman at Newmarket. 4l, 3. Meltheml (10-1) 4th. 4 ran. 1 min.

2.30 (2.34) CROWN PLUS TWO HANDICAP (£2,376: 1½m)

STAR BURST b g by Busted — Pearl Song (W Francis) 5-9-0 N Vaughan (7-2) 1
Aberfield ... J Kaye (7-1) 2
Lakenheath ... S Parr (4-1) 3

TOTE Win, 33p; places, 19p 21p. Dual Forecast: £1.29. CSF: £2.70. W Francis at Malpas. 5l, 3. Arkan (9-4 fav) 4th, 7 ran. 2min 35.44 sec.

3.0 (3.3) LADBROKES BOLDBOY SPRINT HANDICAP (3-y-o: 6f)

MUSIC LOVER b c Gay Fandango — In the Clover (V Behrens) 9-5 J Mercer (4-1) 1
Harpers Bazaar ... W Carson (7-2 fav) 2
Sussex Queen ... P Eddery (10-1) 3

TOTE Win 37p; Places: 16p, 11p 24p. Dual Forecast: 35p CSF: £1.81. P Walwyn at Lambourn. 2l, 3/4l. Illicit (7-1) 4th 10 ran.

3.30 (3.35) LADBROKES NELL GWYN STAKES (Group 3. 3-y-o fillies 7f)

CHALON ch f, by Habitat — Areola (M Riordan) 8-7 L Piggott (8-1) 1
Merlins Charm ... S Cauthen (9-2 fav) 2
Triple Tipple ... T Ives 3

TOTE Win: 58p; Places: 20p, 21p, 18p. Dual forecast £1 49. CSF: £4.12. H Cecil at Newmarket. ½l,3l. Vaigly Star (9-1) 4th 13 ran NR–Corsky.

4.5 (4.8) GERRY FEILDEN STAKES (3-y-o £6,576. 1m 1f)

IVANO, ch c. by Snow Knight — Smiling Jacqueline (C d'Alessio) 9-4 L Piggott (10-11 fav) 1
Electric ... W R Swinburn (8-1) 2
Crossways ... P Eddery (18-1) 3

TOTE WIN: 22p. Places: 14p, 18p, 33p. Dual Forecast: £1 03. CSF: 89p. H Cecil at Newmarket. Nk, 3l. Miramar Reel (50-1) 4th. 14 ran.

4.35 (4.38) ROWLEY STAKES (3-y-o maidens. £3,698. 7f)

SILLY STEVEN, b c by Silly Season — Super Anna (Dr Bennett) 9-0 P Cook (16-1) 1
Cornish Gem ... L Piggott (7-4 fav) 2
Fox ... J Mercer (33-1) 3

TOTE WIN: £2.57. Places: 51p, 17p, 57p. Dual Forecast: £2.93. CSF: £4.57. R. Hannon at Marlborough. Sht hd, 1½l. Himorre (14-1) 4th. 21 ran.

TOTE DOUBLE: Music Lover & Ivano £7.55. TREBLE: Star Burst, Chalon and Silly Steven £13.25 (paid on first two legs only). JACKPOT: Not won, pool of £7,831 50 carried forward to Newbury. PLACEPOT: £30.40.

Thirsk programme

Tote Double 3.00 and 4.00; Treble 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30

2.0 BRITON STAKES (2-y-o: £1,331: 5f) (7 runners)

2.30 KNAYTON STAKES (Selling: £1,271: 6f) (19)

3.0 BIRDFORTH HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,595: 1m) (12)

3.30 SOWERBY STAKES (3-y-o: £2,176: 1¼m) (11)

4.0 STRAITLACE STAKES (Div I: maiden fillies £1,299: 1m) (12)

2 3000- CIMARRON Mrs N Macauley 4-9-7 ... S Parr 5 4
3 FRIENDLY GLEN J Parkes 4-9-7 ... M Beecroft 7 5
4 4004- HOTWAVE Miss S Hall 4-9-7 ... M Birch 10
6 02- REFRESHMENT J Tree 4-9-7 ... S Raymont 8
7 /000 RUN RECORD RUN V Mitchell 4-9-7 ... C Dwyer 12
12 00- SWEET VENGEANCE C James 4-9-7 ... R Currant 7
17 00-3 FACING D Dale 3-8-4 ... A Murray 2
18 0000- FRESH FORD K Stone 3-8-4 ... J Seagrave 9
22 0000- LADYSHIP F Durr 3-8-4 ... A Bond 9
27 00-00 PRINCESS SALUKI R Whitaker 3-8-4 ... M Fozzard 7 11
28 0000- REGENT GIRL J Doyle 3-8-4 ... N Carlisle 5 6
30 40- SEVEN BRIDES ROAD H Cecil 3-8-4 ... N Day 3 1

13-8 Seven Bridges Road, 4 Refreshment, 9-2 Facing, 6 Hot Wave, 10 Ladyship, Cimarron, 12 others.

4.30 HAMBLETON STAKES (3-y-o: £1,744: 5f) (11).

1 03-31 BLAKESWARE SAINT (D) M Tompkins 9-4 ... R Curant 6
13 0000- STALY'S PET Hbt Jones 8-11 ... L Charnock 3
4 304-0 AUTUMN DAZE W Elsey 9-0 ... T Ives 4
6 0-0 MAJESTIC TOWER C Gray 9-0 ... — 9
7 000-0 MR GOLD SPUR A Jarvis 9-0 ... J Lowe 7
8 00- RAJA MUDA R Houghton 9-0 ... P Cook 5
9 00- RETURN TO ME J Toller 9-0 ... G Baxter 2
10 400-0 GIMITA E Eldin 8-11 ... A McKay 5 10
13 0000- STALY'S PET Hbt Jones 8-11 ... L Charnock 3
15 TIME FOR PLEASURE R Boss 8-11 ... E Hide 8
16 0000- VALE OF BELVOIR Denys Smith 8-11 ... P Kelleher 11

4-5 Blakesware Saint, 9-2 Mr Gold Spur, 11-2 Gimita, 7 Autumn Daze, 10 Staly's Pet, 12 others.

5.0 STRAITLACE STAKES (Div II: maiden fillies: £1,297: 1m) (12)

5 300- LITTLE MERCY J Winter 4-9-7 ... T Ives 10
8 0000- SHAMROCK GIRL E Carr 4-9-7 ... L Charnock 2
9 STALY BELL C Thornton 4-9-7 ... J Bleasdale 4
13 0- AMERICAN GIRL W Marshall 3-8-4 ... P Cook 9
14 0- BLAZE OF HONOUR Mrs A Bell 3-8-4 ... C Dwyer 12
15 0-0 BLUE REALM G Richards 3-8-4 ... O Gray 7
16 0000- DANCING FEVER J Mason 3-8-4 ... D Nicholls 6
19 000- FUDDLED B Hills 3-8-4 ... E Hide 3
21 00- JUST A SPARK N Bycroft 3-8-4 ... J Skilling 1
23 020- MARY BURNS S Norton 3-8-4 ... J Lowe 11
29 000- RUSTICARA M W Easterby 3-8-4 ... J Murray 5
32 0004- WHITBY HIGH LIGHT J Calvert 3-8-4 ... M Birch 8

7-4 Mary Burns, 3 Fuddled, 9-2 Little Mercy, 6 American Girl, 10 Just A Spark, 12 Whitby High Light, 14 others.

Thirsk selections

My Michael Seely

2.0 Bonny Shields. 2.30 Kabour. 3.0 Steel Choice. 3.30 Pratos. 4.0 Hot Wave. 4.30 Blakesware Saint. 5.0 Mary Burns.

Ayr selections

By Michael Seely

Ayr NH

2.15 KYLES OF BUTE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,718: 2m) (13 runners)

2.45 DOONHOLM CHASE (Handicap: £2,123: 2m)

3.15 SCOTTISH CHAMPION HURDLE (Limited Handicap: £7,017: 2m) (5)

3.45 LADY ISLE CHASE (Handicap: £2,351: 2½m) (6)

4.15 SEAFIELD CHASE (Novices: £1,542: 3m 110yd) (7)

4.45 HAYHILL HURDLE (Novices: £1,035: 2¾m) (12)

Speedy double for Horage

Horage proved far too speedy for four rivals in the Roperage Stakes at Pontefract yesterday, the Wantage — trained colt leading all the way, to score by two and half lengths.

Robert Street had the favourite on a tight rein as he crossed the line ahead of Domynsky, who was five lengths in front of Timothy Hogan.

A winner at Ayr on his first appearance, Horage will attempt to make it three wins either in the Garter Stakes at Ascot or at the York May meeting.

His trainer, Matt McCormack, who was with Peter Walwyn for seven years, and before that with Sir Noel Murless, acquired Horage for 8,000 guineas as a yearling at Doncaster. He has only fourteen horses, but said he had one nearly as good as Horage — a colt by Averof — waiting for an owner.

Pontefract results

2.45 (2.45) ROPERGATE STAKES (2-y-o colts and geldings: £1,629: 5f)

HORAGE b c by Tumble Wind — Musicienne (A Rachid) 9-8 R Street (4-6 fav) 1
Domynsky ... M Birch (85-40) 2
Timothy Hogan ... J Seagrave (20-1) 3

Tote: win, 13p. Dual Forecast: 14p. CSF: 21p. M McCromack at Wantage. 2½l, 5. Prince Concorde (12-1) 4th. 5 ran.

3.15 (3.17) CORN MAIDEN HANDICAP (£823: 1¼m).

BRAVE MAIDEN, b f by Three Legs — Julie's Gi Gi (C Pullen) 3-8-8 I Johnson (7-1) 1
Rubbino ... J Lowe (8-1) 2
Bunayre ... C Dwyer (8-1)

TOTE: Win, £1.35; places, 48p, 29p, 38p. Dual f: £8.74. CSF: £7.41. Tricast: £45.44. J Bethell at Chilton. ¾l, 3l. Kings March (7-1) 4th, Princely Gem 4-1 fav. 15 ran. Winner bought in for 1,550 gns.

3.45 (3.46) BUTTERCROSS HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,452: 6f)

BOATROCKER, b c, by African Sky — Cheap and Sweet (J Hartley) 8-6 J Lowe

VIEWPOINT

By Nicholas Keith Sports Editor

A matter of supply and demand

Leisure is becoming an increasingly important part our lives. The paradoxical concept of a "leisure industry" could soon become a reality. Even if "full emplyment" were achieved we should still prepare ourselves to have more spare time on our hands.

It is no use looking to governments; politicians have a confused idea of the value of sport. So individuals, clubs and governing bodies must be involved in the brave new world of leisure.

The British are a surprisingly active nation already — despite the lack of sportin facilities and the influence of television. The 1982 social trends statistical survey revealed that 42 per cent of adults and 68 per cent in the 16-19 age group took part in sport. Of course, statistics can make black look white. It must be noted that the survey (in 1980) took no account of the frequency of participation. The range of sports is also encouraging. Although television is a leader of fashion, many sports which do not lend themselves to the small screen or which receive little air time have retained or increased their popularity. This applies notably to badminton and fishing/angling. Squash is still popular but the boom seems to have reach a plateau.

The fastest-growing activity is fishing/angling, which counted 3.7 million participants in 1980.

Women's sporting interests are of vital concern to the planners of television. The audience for World of Sport on ITV grows throughtout a Saturday afternoon reaching a peak of about eight million for wrestling; half the wrestling fans are women — "heavily middle-aged" I was told. It was more revealing to learn that 50 per cent of the 10 million who regularly watch snooker and darts on television are women.

All this interest and activity in sport is encouraging but the decline in the number of spectators at live events is a worrying trend, League football and county cricket seem the worst affected. A table in Social Trends shows that football attendances have fallen from 27.9 million in 1961-62 to 21.9 million in 1980-81.

But amid all the wailing and gnashing of teeth about television, hooliganism, admission charges and so on it is hard to sympathize with sporting authorities which refuse to move with the times and accept the logic of supply and demand. It is crazy to maintain the supply of football and cricket matches when the demand is so obviously lacking.

There is also a strong argument for sports to see participation as a virtue and to find the right slot in the gectic timetable of everyday life. Some market research in this direction would not go amiss. Traditionally people used to go to football matches after finishing work at lunchtime on Saturdays. Now that the pattern of the working week has changed we should consider a new time and place for football matches in the weekly calendar. The same applies to county cricket.

There is an old joke which runs something like this Question: When does the match start? Answer: When can you get here? This wisecrack has become no laughing matter and everyone involved in sport should start to take it seriously.

Also on Page 18

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS

DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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MR. G. K. HALE AND MISS R. E. MURRAY.—The engagement was announced on this day in 1958 between Keith, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs Eric Hale of Streatham, London, and Rosemary, daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. Frances Murray, now of Southview Court, Bromley, Kent.

SIMON G. All's well. Job secured. Many thanks.—Bryan.

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But equally, we need your help to continue and expand our work. Please support us with a donation, in memoriam gift, or a legacy.

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Applications in writing with names and addresses of two referees to the Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN, by 30 April 1982.

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Continued on Page 17

Recruitment Opportunities

SWITZERLAND

The BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS,
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mainly to assist in compiling the Service's English-language news report and other documents for internal information purposes.

Candidates must have a perfect command of English (mother tongue), and be very proficient in French and German. Knowledge of other foreign languages (particularly Italian) useful. Thorough grounding in economics with emphasis on central-bank policy and practice, and international monetary affairs. Ability to translate challenging texts on economics and related subjects from the above-mentioned foreign languages into English, and also to make English summaries of such texts.

Further requirements are an ability to work speedily and under pressure, flexibility and adaptability, team spirit. Candidates must also be prepared to start work early (7.30 a.m.).

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Applications giving full details (c.v., copies of testimonials and a photograph) should be sent to the Personnel Manager, Bank for International Settlements, 4002 Basle, Switzerland.



PERSONNEL MANAGER/ESS

English National Opera employs some 500 people, the majority of whom belong to one of three Trades Unions, thus the post of Personnel Manager/ess is crucial to good industrial relations within the Company. Responsibilities will involve:

— Negotiations on wages, House Agreements, and general conditions of employment;
— Advice on and implementation of employment, industrial relations, Health and Safety and contract legislation;
— Staff recruitment, issue of contracts and internal communications.

Previous and appropriate experience is essential but not necessarily within an arts organisation. Some asects of legal training is an advantage. The Post is responsible to the Personnel Director.

PRESS OFFICER

English National Opera require Press Officer to join busy Publicity Dept. The appointment would suit someone with experience in an arts related Press Office wishing to take on more responsibility. A knowledge/interest in opera, and good media contacts essential. Experience of advertising/printing is an advantage. He/She will be responsible to the Head of Publicity for the day to day running of the Press Office.

Applications for both appointments must be made in writing by 30 April, 1982 to:

Richard Mantle, Personnel Director, English National Opera, London Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

Administrator

Applications are invited for the post of Administrator of the Royal Academy of Music. The successful applicant would be required to join the staff in the Autumn 1982, and to take over the post of Administrator on the 1st February, 1983, on the retirement of the present incumbent.

Further particulars may be obtained from
The Administrator,
Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Rd.
London NW1 5HT
to whom applications should be submitted, by letter, not later than Friday, 14th May, 1982.

KUWAIT

UNIVERSITY OF KUWAIT—FACULTY OF MEDICINE

ALLIED HEALTH APPOINTMENTS

Applications are invited for the following appointments in the allied health programmes. These are university-based programmes, with practical training carried out in the hospitals of the Ministry of Public Health. The language of instruction is English:

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Requirements for Appointment

Candidates should hold the highest professional qualification in the field; be licenced to practice the profession; have at least 5 years' experience of practice; have 2 years' teaching experience.

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Salary: Total monthly salaries will be within the following scale according to qualifications and experience (KD 1=£1.8, US $3.5 approx.):

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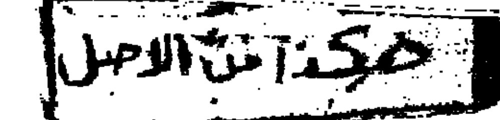
Applications in duplicate, including curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, should be sent to: The Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Kuwait, P.O. Box 24923 Safat, Kuwait, to arrive not later than 29th May 1982.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

CONCERTS

THEATRES



Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Home: Castle or Cage; 7.05 The Fall and Rise of the Small Baker; 7.30 Drawings of Seurat (ends at 7.55); 9.50 The Wombles; 9.55 Jackanory: Bernard Cribbins reads from Mortimer and the Sword Excalibur, by Joan Aiken (r); 10.10 Lassie: another story of the wonder dog. Today: the two horse thieves (r); 10.30 Why Don't You . . .? Leisure activity ideas from young people. 11.00 Closedown; 12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 12.57 News headlines. And financial report; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Another of the Living with Leisure features, and Peter Seabrook's gardening item; 1.45 Heads and Tails; 2.00 Go with Noakes: canoe racing in the River Liffey (r); 2.30 Encounters with Animals: Dolphin. Film about an unusual American experiment in communication (r); 3.20 Pobol y Cwm: serial in Welsh; 3.53 Regional news (not London).

3.55 Play School: (See BBC 2 at 11.00am); 4.20 Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch: cartoon.

4.40 Fourpence a Day: Musical documentary entertainment about child labour in Victorian England. With Chris Tranchell, Karen Davies, Ron Webster. 5.35 The Perishers (r).

5.40 News: with Michael Sullivan. 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide, including (at 6.45) Desmond Lynam's Sportswide.

6.55 Young Musician of the Year: Wind players in the semi-final. You can see the finals next Thursday.

7.30 Odd One Out: New Series begins. It's a word game, hosted by magician Paul Daniels. Of special interest to crossword puzzle addicts. A knowledge of showbusiness will be useful. What the viewer has to do is identify the word, sound, or object that does not belong.

8.00 The Enigma Files: Repeat screening of the BBC 2 detective series, starring Tom Adams as the inspector. Tonight, how a new posting almost costs him his life. Co-starring Sharon Mughan and Duggie Brown.

8.50 Points of View: with Barry Took.

9.00 News: with John Simpson. Also the weekend weather prospects.

9.25 Dad's Army. A special screening of an episode in the famous comedy series, as a tribute to the late Arthur Lowe.

9.55 McClain's Law: American-made crime series starring James Arness in the title role. Tonight, one of his friends becomes a victim of a terror campaign carried out against tradesmen by some vicious thugs.

10.45 The Great West Road: Mike Jenner, an architect, travels along the old London-Bristol road which was once much used by stagecoaches. This is the first of two films.

11.15 News headlines. And weather prospects.

11.20 Film: Better a Widow (1968). Italian-made comedy set in Sicily. Peter McEnery plays the Briton caught up in a tussle between rival wings of the Mafia. Costarring Virna Lisi, Gabriele Ferzetti, Jean Servais, Agnes Spaak, Nino Terzo and Carla Calo. Directed by Duccio Tessari. The film ends at 1.05am.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University, the subjects this morning are, at 6.40 Intermediary Metabolism; 7.05 Palaeontology and Geological Time; 7.30 Quantum Theory and Atomic Structure. Open University transmissions end at 7.55. Nothing then until Play School at 11.00. This morning's story in Ruth Silcock's Posy and Sam. The presenters are Sheelagh Gilbey and Ben Tip,as. with Lisa Kopper's illustrations. This edition of Play School can also be seen on BBC1 at 3.55 this afternoon; 11.25 Closedown; 5.10 The Mindful Way: Film about the daily life of monks in the monastery of Wat Nong Ba Pong in the forest of north-eastern Thailand (this is an Open University film).

5.10 Weekend Outlook: Open University preview.

5.40 Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Code (1946) Messrs Rathbone and the three crucial music boxes. Last of the series.

6.50 Something Else. New series. Young jobless people in East Lancashire find a new direction in life. The bands are Squeeze and The Stargazers.

7.35 One Hundred Great Paintings: John Jacob on Daumier's Ecce Homo.

7.45 News: with sub-titles.

7.50 Gardeners' World: Perparing for the planting out of tomatoes and chrysanthemums.

8.15 Newsweek: The proposition is: by spending more, we can find our way out of recession. Steve Bradshaw test the theory.

8.50 Mama Don't Allow..... Country style music from Roy Clark, Pete Sayers, Terry McMilan and Rose Marie.

9.30 Playhouse: The Queen of Annagh, Drama, by Terry Hodgkinson, set in a farmer penal colony for intellectuals off the coast of Scotland in the Third World War. With Diane Fletcher, Eamon Boland.

10.05 Scoop: Questions on the week's news are put to Griff Rhys-Jones, Jane Walmsley, Henry Kelly and Graeme Garden. The question master in Richard Stilgoe.

10.35 Poems in their Places: Ray Smith reads John Clare's "I am: yet what I am......" and Dr Kerith Trick, a psychiatrist, talks about the "peasant poet" who, for 23 years, was a patient in a Northampton lunatic asylum. The poem is one of the finest accounts of dejection in the English language.

10.45 Newsnight.Ends at 11.35pm.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Rocket Robin Hood: cartoon; 9.45 Wild Canada: the natural wonders of Labrador (r); 10.35 Michel's Mixe-up Bird: The composer Michel Legrand and the injured bird he nursed (r); 11.25 Paint Along with Nancy: Nancy Kominski and plant painting (r); 11.55 The Bubbles; 12.00 Song Book: 12.10 Once Upon a Time: Peter Davison and The Golden Fish; 12.30 Our Incredible World: Lovely and dangerous insects; 1.00 News from ITN: 1.20 Thames Area news; 1.30 About Britain: Long Winters' End. A spectacular bonfire in the Shetland Islands — the Up-Hellya festival; 2.00 After Noon Plus: Among today's items: Malcolm Messiter, the oboist, talks to Simon Reed, and performs some favourite works; 2.45 Film: Union Station (1950*) Thriller about the kidnapping of the blind, 10-year-old daughter of an idustrialist. Co-starring William Holden, Nancy Olson and Barry Fitzgerald. Directed by Rudolph Mate.

4.15 Road Runner: cartoon; 4.20 Razzmatazza: Pop music show. With Kim Wilde, Squeeze, and the Killingworth Sword Dancers.

4.45 Freetime: A Devon shore survey; making scenery for a model railway; and a way to measure bubble-gum bubbles.

5.15 Film Fun: Derek Griffiths continues the story of Warner Brothers cartoons. Today: Porky Pig, the studio's first big cartoon star.

5.45 News: 6.00 The 6 O'clock Show: Amusing news stories and the more serious ones are mixed in this lively, live programme, linked by Michael Aspel and Jane Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: The Hansons from Llandudno take on the Goodings from Seaton, in Devon. The MC is Bob Monkhouse.

7.30 Survival Special: The Missing Monsoon. Film about how wildlife survived when the national park in Bahratpur, India, was hit by one of he worst droughts in living memory.

8.30 The Bounder: New situation comedy series with Peter Bowles as a black sheep in white kid gloves, and George Cole as his stuffy brother-in-law.

9.00 We'll Meet Again: The squire's wife (Susannah York) spends an evening with the American major (Michael J Shannon). Her angry daughter (Lise-Ann McLaughlin) decides to tell her crippled father (Ronald Hines) that her mother is having an affair. Her actions are, however, motivated by jealousy as much as anything else.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Benson: First in a new batch of comedies about the black butler (Robert Guillaume) in a white governor's residence.

11.00 The London Programme: Rotten Estates. What is being done to improve the squalid conditions in some of London's enormous housing estates cursed by crime, vandalism and the failure of councils to carry out essential repairs. We visit estates in Lambeth, Lewisham, Ealing and Hackney.

11.35 Dolly: new series. Country music from Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris.

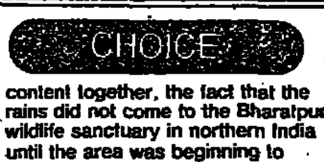
12.05 Bizarre: allegedly adult entertainment from the US.

12.35 Close: Tim Rice reads a favourite poem.

Peter Bowles: he appears in The Bounder (ITV, 8.30 pm)

● THE QUEEN OF ANNAGH (BBC 2, 9.30 pm), Terence Hodgkinson's play about a woman and an airman, physically united on a cheerless Scottish island two years into the Third World War, ends on a Promethean note — i.e., with the theft of fire. The clever thing about the play is the way this particular element (or rather the lack of it) is used to symbolise the impotence of modern scientific Man when separated from his computerized power base. Mr Hodgkionson has written a war story that is unlike any other I have ever heard.

● THE MISSING MONSOON (ITV, 7.30 pm) is a catch-penny title. The monsoon is missing alright, but only briefly, and though the narration in this Survival Special subsequently makes fitful efforts to bring title and



content together, the fact that the rains did not come to the Bharatpur wildlife sanctuary in northern India until the area was beginning to look like the skin of an over-baked potato is secondary in importance to some splendid sequences showing birds fishing, wooing, nesting and squabbling. Towards the end of the film, another sub-plot begins to nudge its way into the narrative — the old familiar tale of human intrusion into a preserve of nature. But the theme is not developed to any extent. This is a film about what survives more than about what perishes.

● TO THE PIER AND BACK (Radio 4, 3.02), Peter Ling's comedy, is one of those plays which end with all the characters united in life-affirming laughter. It is a cliché which has stood the test of time, and we should not condemn the device unless it is used to provide and easy, illogical way out of an otherwise complex situation. Mr Ling's play about two spinster sisters and the boys' school teacher who disrupts their quiet seaside lives has an unpredictable outcome. It happens to end in laughter, but it might equally well have ended in tears.

● Best of the rest of today's radio: a repeat of Ronald Hayman's assessment of a major playwright in THE QUALITY OF MERCER (Radio 3, 9.10 pm) and a Mozart and Schubert recital by the Amadeus Quartet (the Mozart K465, and the Schubert Quartet in G) on Radio 3 at 7.30 and 8.20 pm.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day, 7.00, 8.00 Today's News; 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines; 7.45 Thought for the Day.
8.43 The Richard Stilgoe Letters.†
8.57 Weather, Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs, Castaway: actress and singer, Julia McKenzie. †
9.45 A Sideways Look at . . . by Anthony Smith.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Vitelli Madonna" by Mark Bourne.
11.00 News.
11.03 You the Jury.
11.48 Bird of the Week. The Yellowhammer and the corn bunting.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours. Consumer advice.
12.27 Frank Muir Goes Into . . . Travel. †
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Afternoon Theatre: "To the Pier and Back Again" by Peter Ling.
4.00 News.
4.02 Edward Blishen reflects on social archaeology.
4.10 Locally Speaking. Series on English dialects and accents.
4.40 Story Time: "Z for Zachariah" by Robert O'Brien.
5.00 PM: News Magazine.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News.
6.30 Going Places. The travel and transport scene.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending. A satirical view of the week's news.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Awakening" by Kate Chopin.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Chamber Jazz. Records of the finest small groups of the last 40 years.
12.00 News; Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.
VHF With II above except as follows: 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 10.30-10.45 Knock-down Ginger. Rolf Harris with comedy, quizzes and music for children. 1.55-2.00 Programme News 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert Schultz, Debus, Vivaldi, Telemann, Johann Stamitz, Johann Strauss; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Monteverdi, Sibelius, Beethove, Orff; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer Mozart: records.†
10.00 Chicago Symphony Orchestra plays Shostakovich: Symphony No 10.†
10.50 Schubert Chamber music recital.†
11.40 Peter Warlock and Trevor Hold Song Recital.†
12.15 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra Concert. Part 1: Bartok, Liszt.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert Part 2: Tchaikovsky.†
2.00 Viola and Piano Recital: Reinecke, Kodaly, Gerardo Gandini, Enesco.†
2.40 Youth Orchestras of the World Concert: Corelli, Gordon Jacob, Sarasate, Mussorgsky, John Tavener.†
3.20 Flute and Harpsichord Recital: Goivanni Platti, Michel Blavet, Bach.†
4.00 Choral Evensong from Worcester Cathedral.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Ionych. Short Story by Chekov.
7.30 Mozart and Schubert String Quartet recital direct from the Boradcasting Centre, Birmingham. Part 1: Mozart.†
8.00 Through a Night. Poetry readings.
8.20 Concert Part 2: Schubert.†
9.10 The Quality of Mercer. Ronald Hayman considers David Mercer's television writing and his contribution to contemporary theatre and cinema.
9.50 20th-Century Music for Strings Concert: Bartok, Webern, Strauss.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Italian Ars Nova Three ballads by Gherardellus de Florentia; record.†
VHF only — Open University: 5.55-6.15am Economics and Education Policy. 6.35-6.55 Villa Madama. 11.40pm-12.00 Raymond Williams. 12.40am-1.00 Frank Lloyd Wright.

Radio 2

5.00 am Nick Page.† 7.30 Ray Moore.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart including 2.45, 3.45 Sports Desk.† 4.00 David Hamilton including 4.45 Sports Desk.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Sequence Time at the Radio 2 Ballroom. 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.00 The Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket 2. 10.30 Anything for a Laugh. 11.00 Brian Matthew;† 12.00 Midnight Newsroom; Weather; Motoring Information. 1.00 am Night Owls.† 2.00 Star Wars.† 2.27-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 pm Steve Wright. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance.† 12.00 midnight Close. VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz 463m) at the following times GMT: 6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Conductor's Gallery. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 New Waves. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The English Idyll. 8.30 It Makes Me Laugh. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Gloria Hunniford. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 25 Years of Rock. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 The Concerto. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 Jane Eyre. 9.00 Network U.K. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Wave guide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15pm Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook News Summary. 1.45 Melodious Machines. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 The Haydn Years. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.40 Book Choice. 5.45 The World Today. ends.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

CYMRU/WALES: 12.57-1.00 pm News of Wales. 1.45-2.00 Sioncyn Sboncyn. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.40-5.05 Break in the Sun. 5.05-5.35 Siams Sionc. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 6.25-6.30 Bugs Bunny. 6.30-6.55 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Pobol Y Cwm. 10.45-11.35 Music Makers. 11.35-11.36 News. 11.35-1.23 am Film: Country Dance (Peter O'Toole). SCOTLAND: 12.55-1.00 pm News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.45-11.15 The Beechgrove Garden. 11.15-11.20 News. NORTHERN IRELAND: 12.57-1.00 pm News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.22 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.35 am News. ENGLAND: 6.00-6.22 pm Regional News Magazines. 10.15-10.45 East — Weekend. Midlands — Midlands Tonight. North — OOne Plus One. North East — Hindsight. North West — Home Ground. South — Southern Life. South West — According to Hoyle. West — R P M. 12.35 am Close.

ULSTER

As London except: Starts 12.00-12.10pm Song Book. 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 5.15 Milestones or Millstones, 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Lou Grant. 11.35 News, Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: starts 9.20am Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Spread Your Wings: 9.55 Stingray. 10.20 Animated Classics. 11.05 Max and Moritz. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 12.30pm-1.00 News, Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: "The Old Man who Cried Wolf" (Edward G. Robinson) Old man sees a friend murdered but nobody believes him. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News: 10.32 Film: "Neither the Sea nor the Sand" (Susan Hampshire) Dead lover's rotting body commits murder. 12.30am Poet's Corner. 12.35 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 9.30 am Patterns. 9.55 Black Beauty. 10.40 Diff'rent Strokes. 11.05 Then Came Bronson. 11.50-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45 New Fred and Barney Show. 3.15 Barney Google. 3.20-4.15 Beyond Westward. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear, Here. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Film: Memory of Us (Ellen Geer, Jon Cypher) Woman who is no longer satisfied to be a housewife. 12.30 am Closedown.

BORDER

as London except: 9.30am Poetry of Landscape. 9.45 Sesame Street. 10.45 Bailey's Bird. 11.10 World We Live In. 11.35-12.00 Paint Along With Nancy 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Electric Theatre Show. 10.30 Worth Keeping. 11.00 Danger UXB. ¼¼.** news. 12.03am Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 9.30am Circus. 9.50 Untamed World. 10.15 Animated Classics. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00 About Britain. 2.30-4.15 Film: Mister Jerico (Patrick Macnee, Connie Stevens). Two conmen connive to possess a precious diamond. 6.00 Kick Off. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 1.15am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.45am First Thing. 9.50 Halas and Batchelor. 10.35 Stingray. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Time, Gentlemen Please!" (Eddie Byrne, Dora Bryan). Comedy about tramp who upsets perfect English village. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Film: Dracula AD 1972 (Peter Cushing, Christopher Lee). Thirsty count sets to work on the Chelsea set. 1215am News. 12.20 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.30 Sally and Jake. 9.40 Sesame Street. 10.40 Wild, Wild, World of Animals. 11.05 Robson's Choice: Bobby Robson, football manager. 11.55-12.00 Captain Nemo. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: "Too Many Crooks"* (Terry-Thomas. George Cole) Comedy about a group of incompetent crooks who plan a kidnapping. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 10.30 Benson. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45 Mannix. 12.40am Closedown.

HTV

As London except: Starts 9.45 am Larry The Lamb. 9.55 Flower Stories. 10.05 Roadrunners. 10.15 Charlie's Angels. 11.05-12.00 Robson's Choice. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Battle Beneath The Earth (Kerwin Mathews). US's enemies use a giant laser to burrow beneath the earth. 5.45-6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Mork and Mindy. 10.28 News. 10.30 Sporting Print. 11.00 Film: Mutiny On The Buses (Reg Varney). Big-screen version of TV comedy series.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10pm Beth Am Stori? 4.15-4.45 Yng Nghysgod Y Llwyn. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Making It Work. 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

TVS

As London except: Starts 9.35 am Kum Kum. 10.00 Film: Neptune Factor (Ben Gazzara, Yvette Mimieux) Rescue of a laboratory from the Atalantic. 11.35-12.00 European Folk Tales. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Miss Robin Hood* (Margaret Rutherford) Meek magazine owner helps to rescue a secret whisky recipe from a distiller. 5.15 Watch This Space . . . 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00 Film: Pink Telephone (Mireille Darc) Pompous industrialist falls in love with a call-girl. 12.40 am Company, Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.30am Cartoon. 9.45 Rocket Robin Hood. 10.10 Film: Operation Amsterdam* (Peter Finch, Eva Bartok). English army officer leads a secret operation to Amsterdam to stop industrial diamonds falling into German hands. 11.50-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Lost In The Desert (Darkie Hayes). Small boy and his dog survive an aircrash and begin a frightening journey across the desert. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Man Who Would Not Die (Dorothy Malone, Keenan Wynn). Adventurer finds himself with a dead body aboard his ketch. 1.05am Dear Diary.

TSW

As London except: starts 9.35am Paint Along With Nancy. 10.00 Easter day horse Parade. 10.15 Story Hour. 11.05 It's A Musical World. 11.55-12.00 Look and See. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Background (Valerie Hobson) Children caught in a marriage breakdown. 5.15-4.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.32 News. 10.35 Mysterious Tales. 10.40 House Calls. 11.10 Film: Forbidden Games (Georges Poujouly, Brigitte Fossey). Plight of Paris child who sees her parents killed in an air raid.*. 12.40am Postscript. 12.46 Closedown.

CENTRAL

as London except: Starts 9.35am 3-2-1 Contact. 10.05 Falcon Island. 10.30 New Accelerators. 11.00-12.00 Jetstream. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Joe Dakota (Jock Mahoney) Joe Dakota returns to California to find his old Indian friend murdered and his oil claim usurped. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Central's Girl Of The Year 1982. 10.50 News. 10.55 Film: Charley Varrick (Walter Matthau). It's not just the policew who are chasing Charley after a bank robbery.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Entertainments Guide

Teachers' unions split as NUT bans cane

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The anti-caning bandwagon received another firm push yesterday when the National Union of Teachers (NUT) became the first teachers' union to take a firm stand against the use of corporal punishment in schools.

At the union's annual conference in Scarborough, delegates representing more than half the teachers in England and Wales, voted by a large majority against the advice of their executive to campaign for the abolition of corporal punishment in schools within the next two years.

At the same time, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers (NAS/UWT) voting at its annual conference in Blackpool for a motion reaffirming its view that corporal punishment should continue to be used "at the discretion of teachers".

Two months ago, the European Court of Human Rights put a question mark over the legality of the continued use of corporal punishment in Britain when it ruled that parents had the right to choose in the light of their philosophical convictions whether their child should be beaten at school.

A few weeks later, the British Government sent a circular to local authorities informing them that "in certain circumstances corporal punishment may amount to treatment contrary to Article 3 of the Conention on Human Rights."

The circular related not to the European Court decision but to an earlier out-of-court settlement under which the British Government agreed to make an exgratia payment of £1,200 and £1,000 legal costs to an English mother who had complained to the European Commission of Human Rights that her daughter had been so severely beaten at school that the act constituted degrading treatment or punishment, and as such contravened Article 3.

The National Association of Head Teachers, which represents two-thirds of heads of state schools, said it would continue to support members who wished to use corporal punishment. "We can understand the trend away from corporal punishment and indeed appreciate the reasons for it, but if nothing is put in its place, schools will be in a very difficult position, "Mr Richard Foster, the deputy general secretary, said.

Mr Peter Smith, of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, said yesterday's votes by NUT and the NAS/UWT highlighted the sharp division within the profession on the question of corporal punishment. The union's own position was one of neutrality.

He personally was against the cane, but he could understand why some teachers in some very tough schools felt it should be retained. Earlier this week, the deputy head of an inner city school in the north had telephoned him to say that a pupil at the school has stabbed a female teacher 23 times, tried to rape her, and hed then locked her in a cupboard where she was found later.

Twenty-five of the 104 education authorities in England and Wales have abolished corporal punishment in their schools or intend to do so. A further 18 are considering abolition, and the Government has recommended that it should be phased out in Scottish schools within the next two years.

Conference reports, page 3



Beirut flare-up: A wounded man is carried away after a mortar shell hit a residential area of Beirut in the renewed faction fighting which broke out yesterday.

Paving damage peril to walkers

By David Walker

Each year a sizable proportion of the British public falls over in the street and the cause, according to a 100-page government report, lies under their feet: pavements nationally are in poor repair.

Each year the local authorities responsible for pavements spend £50m on relaying flag-stones and resurfacing with bitumen. Repairing pavements costs as much as 10 per cent of the total cost of maintaining roads in the United Kingdom.

At any given time many of the 130,000 miles of footways in England are cracked or damaged, which explains why so many people fall over. How many accidents there are annually has not been calculated but a huge number, possibly 10,000, result in people claiming compensation from councils and their insurance companies. The claims average £160 to £200, but in total £2m may be paid out to injured pedestrians each year.

The Standing Committee on Highway Maintenance, made up of council and Departent of Transport officials, has published the report, *A Study of Footway Maintenance*, which is the most extensive survey of the pavements to have been made.

Pavements of concrete *flagstones* make up about a third of the total. They are used mostly in towns and cities, areas of heavy use. Most pavements are surfaced with bitumen.

Flagstones, the report said, are easier to keep clean, better looking and when they are in good condition provide easier walking. But flagstones get damaged, often by cars and lorries riding up on the pavement.

The report recommended that councils advertise in lorry drivers' magazines to try to stop the damage. Otherwise bollards or raised kerbs may have to be installed for pedestrians' protection.

Horowitz to play in London

Vladimir Horowitz, often described as "the greatest pianist alive or dead", is to give his first European concerts for 30 years in London next month (Robin Young writes). Now aged 77, Horowitz attended a press conference in New York to announce the dates. His first concert, at the Festival Hall on May 22, which will be attended by the Prince of Wales, will be in aid of the Royal Opera House Development Appeal.

Mr Peter Gelb, Horowitz's manager, said yesterday that the pianist had overcome his legendary dislike of extended travel only because he was intrigued by Concorde.

Horowitz has not decided his programmes for the concerts, but he said the first is likely to include Schumann's *Kinderszenen* in honour of the Princess of Wales's forthcoming baby. The performance will be televised by the BBC. The second recital will be at the Festival Hall on May 29.

Islanders arrive in Britain

Continued from page 1

"There is a certain amount of freedom to come and go but as you can imagine with a military occupation there are a number of areas which people can't go into. There is what you might call passive resistance. They (the islanders) are very cross indeed."

The Falklanders would welcome the British fleet's arrival. Perhaps a small number would be willing to live under an Argentine flag, but most would not. He had seen one Argentine soldier killed during the invasion and three others wounded. He believed there were between 4,000 and 5,000 troops on the island and that beaches had been mined. The islanders were still very well informed, even though the Argentines had tried to confiscate radios.

Mr Baker said he had suspected the invasion was on its way 12 hours before the troops landed. "But there were a number of us who still thought that there would not be an invasion, even though we knew that forces were massing. I still think it was a reasonable thing to think. I can't imagine in this day and age anybody doing such a thing", he said.

Several women among the exiles were weeping yesterday and one, Mrs Tricia Luxton, cried on the shoulder of Mr Hunt as he shook her hand. She told him: "Get us back, please get us back." Later, Mrs Luxton said: "They kicked us out but I am bloody going back. No one is going to stop me.

"We have just got our clothes. We have left five generations of everything. I will swim if I have to, but I am going back." Her husband, Mr Bill Luxton, a sheep farmer, said it was absolute nonsense to say there had been a resistance movement on the islands. There had been no organized resistance at all.

The islanders were interviewed by Foreign Office officials for three hours. Most of them left the airport by a side exit to avoid waiting journalists outside the immigration section.

The British Airports Authority spokesman, who had assured journalists that the islanders would come through the airport's normal immigration channels, later admitted that the system had been circumvented but denied that this was on the insistence of the Foreign Office, which did not want the islanders to be interviewed.

Two families insisted on leaving the airport by the front entrance and were met by relatives.

Mr Baker told reporters: "The general attitude of the invading forces has been very correct. Inevitably with a large force of young indisciplined chaps around there are some lapses from the code of conduct which is being imposed by the senior officers.

'There have been one or two instances of mostly empty houses being broken into. I thought first of all this was young chaps looking for food, but latterly I have begun to think that its just people who are curious and looking for souvenirs. They don't seem to take very much.

"The Argentine senior officers when these things are reported take them seriously but they find it hard to follow up and take disciplinary action because there are so many different units involved."

☐ British scientists on the island of South Georgia are carrying on their research work undisturbed by the Argentine invaders (Ian Bradley writes).

The 13 scientists who work for the British Antarctic Survey are split into four teams each based in remote parts of the island. Dr Ray Adie, deputy director of the survey, said yesterday that he had heard from the group. They were safe and well and only indirectly aware of the island's invasion.

Also still on South Georgia are two film-makers from Anglia Television, Miss Cindy Buxton and her assistant, Miss Annie Price. They are staying in a remote hut making a film about king penguins for the natural history series *Survival*.

Falklands prepare for British fleet arrival

Continued from page 1

to ending one of the last chapters of colonial history on the continent. Argentina was under the threat of aggression of a great scale but would pursue its sovereignty.

As usual, Señor Nicanor Costa Mendez, the civilian Foreign Minister, offered a more conciliatory message and said that the threat by Mrs Thatcher to use force "does not contribute in any way towards finding a solution."

He added that there had been no progress since Mr Haig left Buenos Aires for London on Sunday. "I must stress that neither side has decided to suspend negotiations."

The newspaper, *La Razon* which usually faithfully reflects the views of the army hierarchy, said today that Argentina had offered a five-point plan that could serve as the basis of negotiations. But there was no question of negotiating Argentinian sovereignity over the Falklands.

Argentian warships are believed to have left port but are remaining close to shore. Reports from the Falklands indicate that there are frantic last-minute preparations for the arrival of the British fleet.

General Mario Benjamin Menendez, the island's "governor," said he planned "bit by bit" to introduce the Argentinian way of life.

Schools, for example, would start to teach Argentine history and geography in place of English history and geography. But he would maintain as much as possible of the islanders' lifestyle and customs.

It appears that about 200 of the 1,800 islanders have been allowed to leave since the invasion, and most are staying in Montevideo, Uruguay.

☐ CARACAS: Mr Haig today met Señor Jose Zambrano, Venezuelan Foreign Minister, at the airport here in a brief stopover on his way to Buenos Aires.—Reuter.

Paris suicide

M Louis de Guiringaud, the former French Foreign Minister, was found dead at his Paris home. Police said they were treating the case as suicide.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh leaves Heathrow Airport to visit Ottawa to attend ceremony marking the patriation of the Canadian constitution, 9.30.

Exhibitions in progress

Etchings by Jean Frélaut, Charrington Print Room, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 2 to 5, Sun 2.15 to 5; closed Mon; (until June 27).

Craigie Aitchison; City Museum and Art Gallery, Museum Road, Portsmouth; daily 10.30 to 5.30; (until May 16).

Paintings by George C Morrison and Desmond Turner, Cleft Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Omagh, N Ireland; Mon to Sat 1 to 4, closed Wed (until April 30).

Drawings and watercolours by John Ruskin, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester University, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9; (until May 3).

Sculpture by Michael Rysbrack, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until May 1).

Ceramic sculpture by Eric Griffiths, Museum and Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10.30 to 8; (until May 1).

Mayakovsky: Twenty Years of Work, and early Soviet photographers, Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; closed Mon; (until May 2).

The Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company since 1860, Gloucester Folk Museum, 99-103 Westgate Street, Gloucester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; (until May 29).

Purchasing the Past: historic documents and estate maps, Bentliffe Gallery, Maidstone Museum; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; (until May 7).

Watercolours by Stephen Osler; photographs by Neil Newton and contemporary prints by leading Canadian artists; all at Guildford House Gallery, 155 High Street, Guildford, Surrey; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5; (until May 1).

Oil paintings by Alan Smallwood, Eton Art Gallery, 58 High Street, Eton, Berks; Mon to Sun 10 to 12.30 and 2 to 5; closed Tues; (until April 23).

Archaeology's Action Men, National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland, 1 Queen Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until mid-October).

Anniversary Exhibition, Austen Hayes Galleries, 44 The Shambles, York; Mon to Sat 10 to 12.30 and 2 to 5, closed Wed and Sun; (until May 29).

Banners and paintings for the Celtic people, William Trevor Griffith, Dorset County Museum, Dorchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; (until May 1).

Last chance to see

Assemblages: collages by Anthony Earnshaw and Frank Jennings and assembled sculpture by Terry Hammill, St Paul's Gallery, 57 St Paul's Street, Leeds, 10 to 5; (ends today).

Pilkington's Lancastrian Lustreware, Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester; 8.45 to 4.45; (ends today).

Music

Classical guitar concert, Usher Gallery, Lindum Road, Lincoln, 7.30.

Recital, Abbey Singers: The Seven Last Words from the Cross, by Heinrich Schütz, Belfast Cathedral, 8.

The Spinners concert, Kings Hall, Herne Bay, 8.

Don McLean concert, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

Shell Ornament in the Pacific, by J Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.

General

Demonstrations and work by local craftswomen of patchwork-making, smocking, lace-making, spinning, Buckinghamshire County Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury; 11 to 5 today and tomorrow.

Anniversaries

Births: Hans Sloane, physician, whose collection of books formed the basis of the British Museum, Killyleagh, Co Down, 1660; John Franklin, discoverer of the Northwest Passage, Spilsby, Lincs, 1786; Anatole France, Paris, 1884. Goya died at Bordeaux, 1828, and Saint Bernadette at Nevers, 1879. The Battle of Culloden (Drummossie) 1746.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,807

ACROSS

1 It's warmer for us after leaving Mexico (4,6)
6 In opera she sticks to one note (4)
9 Food the penniless Parisian hasn't got? (6,4)
10 On which, is black in a difficult position? (4)
12 No easy way for Farson's hero (12)
15 His part a cushy one for a swordsman apparently (9)
17 Enigmatic source of Samson's meat (5)
18 French Revolutionary reign — what's wrong with operation of guillotine? (5)
19 Uninteresting Lilliputian type of firearm (5-4)
20 Tell whose London home this might be? (5,7)
24 Order leader of emissaries to stay (4)
25 To do this can end, maybe, Beauty's sleep (10)
26 Nelson in a whirl (4)
27 Grotesque, Miller receiving £1 — what a come-down! (10)

DOWN

1 Are those who thus land fish old men? (4)
2 Pistol's forced intake (4)
3 Employing one anyhow is sure tricky (8,4)
4 Bird — in song 'e was no coot (5)
5 A single and a double cocktail for relief of pain (9)
7 I am going over the station lines at school (10)
8 Put stock under topsoil to produce hybrids (10)
11 "Only God can make a tree" — but this one's of human creation (12)
13 Apparent as possible non-starter with entry of ten (10)
14 Just like Uncle Tom Cobbleigh & Co (4-6)
16 Keeper arranged a discount (9)
21 Roman fountain turns one green (5)
22 Froth renders girl drawing beer helpless (4)
23 Last river to cross (4)

Solution of Puzzle No 15,806

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

Food prices

Prices of some eggs and bacon will fall next week because of wholesale reductions announced yesterday. Most eggs supplied by Goldenlay, the largest egg marketing cooperative in Britain, will be cut by 3p a dozen. Prices of Danish bacon will fall because of a reduction of about 3p a pound in wholesale rates for whole sides; reductions will probably be concentrated in Britain on rashers.

Other meat prices remain fairly stable, with some poultry slightly dearer as Easter promotions finish.

Most salad crops are a little cheaper this week, including English and Channel Island tomatoes; round lettuce, Chinese leaves, chicory and watercress are particularly good buys.

Rhubarb is a little cheaper, as are strawberries from the Continent. New crop apples from the Cape and New Zealand are of high quality, and citrus fruits remain good buys this week.

Engineering course

The Royal Television Society's television engineering course, designed for engineers with some basic training, is to travel to Manchester next month. It will be in two parts: fundamentals and implementation. Eighteen lectures will be held over two weekends at Manchester University: part 1, May 7 to 9; part 2, May 21 to 23.

Details of fees and further information from the RTS, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HR (tel: 01-387 1970/1332).

Falklands crisis

Constantly updated information on the Falkland Islands crisis is available to Prestel users — *key* into page 146220.

Support centres

The Navy has set up six "Samaritan" centres for relatives of servicemen on task force ships to provide help and support for anyone facing difficulties during their absence. They are at Rosyth (0383) 416747, Faslane (0436) 4321, Portland (0305) 821549, Plymouth (0752) 557021, Portsmouth (0705) 755212 and Chatham (0634) 812771.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.75	1.67
Austria Sch	31.40	29.40
Belgium Fr	92.25	87.25
Canada $	2.22	2.13
Denmark Kr	15.03	14.28
Ireland Pd	1.26	1.21
France Fr	11.50	10.90
Germany Dm	4.44	4.19
Greece Dr	116.00	109.00
Hong Kong $	10.60	10.00
Italy Lit	2390.00	2290.00
Japan Yn	460.00	434.00
Netherlands Gld	4.91	4.65
Norway Kr	11.22	10.62
Portugal Esc	131.00	124.00
South Africa Rd	2.20	2.04
Spain Pta	190.00	181.00
Sweden Kr	10.94	10.36
Switzerland Fr	3.62	3.40
USA $	1.81	1.74

London: The *FT* Index closed down 9.6 at 544.8.

Top 10 films

The top ten films in London:
1 Quest for Fire
2 Evil Under The Sun
3 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
4 Reds
5 Sharky's Machine
6 On Golden Pond
7 The Boat
8 Raiders of the Lost Ark
9 The Secret Policeman's Other Ball
10 Roar

The top five in the provinces:
1 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
2 Dragonslayer
3 Christiane F
4 Sharky's Machine
5 Sleeping Beauty

Compiled by Screen International

Roads

London and South-east: M1: Entry and exit at junction 13 (Bedford, A5140) closed from 10 tonight for one month; roadworks 13 (Bedford, A5140) closed from 10 tonight for one month; roadworks between junctions 12 and 13. A25: Roadworks at Tandridge crossroads, Godstone, Surrey; long delays. A281: Temporary signals at Cowfold, S of Horsham. A12: Overnight repairs W of Chelmsford.

Wales and West: A40 Lane closures between Gloucester and Ross-on Wye. M4: Lane closures between junctions 24 and 25 near Newport. M4: Lane closures between junctions 17 (A429, Chippenham) and 18 (A46, Bath); also near Severn Bridge, 4 am - 8.30 pm on Weekdays.

Midlands: M5 Lane closures between junctions 7 and 8 (Ross). A435: Roadworks at Mappleborough Green, Studley, Warwickshire. A34: Long delays on Birmingham Road, Stratford, also at Bridgeway, Stratford.

North: A57: Lane closures at Park Square roundabout, Sheffield. A1(M) and A66(M), N. Yorkshire.

Scotland: M9: Lane closures from Craigforth (junction 10) to Dumbarton Road. M90: Only one lane at junction 3 (Cowdenbeath); lane restrictions both ways at junction 2 (A823, Dunfermline). A927: Roadworks between Meigle and Alyth.

The papers

"That curse of modern diplomacy, the jet plane, is spoiling the rhythm of old-fashioned gunboat diplomacy", the New York Times said yesterday, arguing that Mr Haig's "frantic shuttle is provoking rival assertions of mettle".

The Süddeutsche Zeitung says Galtieri wants to establish Argentina as a major power in the South, and the West must adapt itself to such a power shift; but the more conservative Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung argues that the Falklands situation shows that peace needs armed protection, or the law of the jungle will spread to other parts of the world.

Weather forecast

There is an anticyclone over Germany, with a ridge across England and Wales.

6 am to midnight

London, East Anglia, Midlands, E, Central N England: Dry, sunny periods, patchy fog early, wind variable, light; max temp 15C (59F).

SE, Central S, SW England, Channel Islands: Early fog patches, sunny periods. Wind E, light to moderate; max temp 14C (57F), 9C (48F) on some coasts.

Wales, NW England, Isle of Man: Early fog patches, sunny periods, wind variable, light; max temp 14C (57F), but 9C (48F) on some coasts.

Lake District, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Sunny intervals at first, becoming cloudy with a little rain in places; wind SW, moderate, becoming NW light; max temp 11C (52F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Argyll: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, becoming brighter and dry; wind SW, moderate, becoming NW, light; max temp 11C (52F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals developing, scattered showers; wind NW, light to moderate; max temp 9C (48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mainly dry with sunny periods; rather warm, but colder near E coast, slight frost in places.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind variable, then NW, light or moderate; sea slight. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE, light or moderate; sea slight.

Sun rises: 6.04 am Sun sets: 7.58 pm
Moon rises: 3.0 am Moon sets: 11 10 am
Last quarter: 1.42 pm.

Lighting-up time

London 8.28 pm to 5.32 am
Bristol 8.38 pm to 5.41 am
Edinburgh 8 51 pm to 5.33 am
Manchester 8.41 pm to 5.38 am
Penzance 8.47 pm to 5.56 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	13	55	Guernsey	s	10	50
Birmingham	s	15	59	Inverness	c	11	52
Blackpool	s	14	57	Jersey	s	11	52
Bristol	f	15	59	London	s	16	61
Cardiff	s	15	59	Manchester	s	14	57
Edinburgh	c	14	57	Newcastle	s	14	57
Glasgow	f	13	56	Ronaldsway	s	11	52

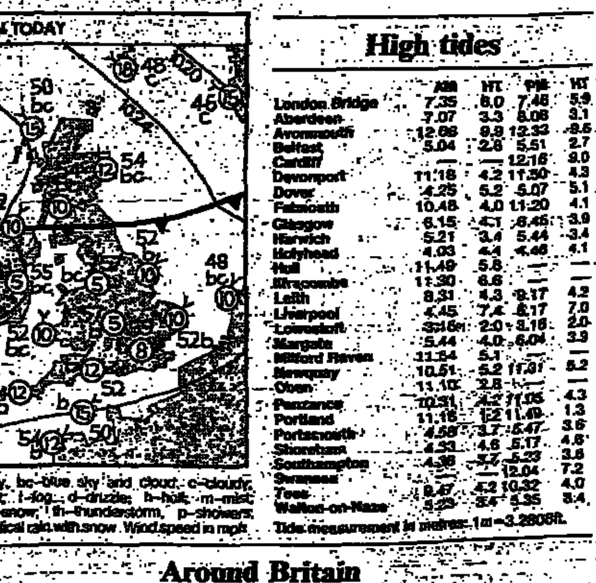
London

Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 17°C (63°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 7°C (45°F). Humidity: 7 pm, 50 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 7 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 7 pm, 11.8 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,022·2 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

Highest and lowest

Highest temp: London, Bristol, Cardiff, Coningsby, 17C (63F). Lowest day max: Hartland Point, 8C (46F). Highest rainfall: Lerwick, 0 18in. Highest sunshine: Hayling Island, 12.9hr.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b—blue sky, bc—blue sky and cloud, c—cloudy, o—overcast, f—fog, d—drizzle, h—hail, m—mist, r—rain, s—snow, th—thunderstorm, p—showers, pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Margate	5.44	4.0	6.04	3.9
Milford Haven	11.54	5.1	—	—
Newquay	10.51	5.2	11.01	5.2
Oban	11.10	2.8	—	—
Penzance	10.31	4.2	11.05	4.3
Portland	11.16	1.2	11.49	1.3
Portsmouth	4.58	3.7	5.47	3.6
Shoreham	4.33	4.6	5.17	4.8
Southampton	4.38	3.7	5.23	3.8
Swansea	—	—	12.04	7.2
Tees	9.47	4.2	10.32	4.0
Walton-on-Naze	5.23	3.4	5.35	3.4

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	4.8	—	14	57	Sun int
Bridlington	10.2	—	15	59	Sunny
Cromer	11.6	—	12	54	Sunny
Lowestoft	11.8	—	10	50	Sunny
Clacton	11.2	—	11	52	Sunny
Thanet	12.2	—	10	50	Sunny
Folkestone	12.6	—	12	54	Sunny
Hastings	12.5	—	11	52	Sunny
Eastbourne	12.7	—	13	55	Sunny
Worthing	12.5	—	12	54	Sunny
Littlehampton	11.8	—	12	54	Sunny
Bognor	12.6	—	11	52	Sunny
Hayling Isl	12.9	—	10	50	Sunny
Ryde	8.2	—	12	54	Sun pd
Sandown	11.8	—	12	54	Sunny
Shanklin	12.4	—	12	54	Sunny
Ventnor	11.4	—	12	54	Sunny
Bournemouth	9.2	—	12	54	Sun pds
Poole	8.9	—	14	57	Sun pds
Swanage	10.6	—	11	52	Sunny
Weymouth	11.1	—	13	55	Sunny
Exmouth	9.0	—	12	54	Sunny
Teignmouth	8.1	—	13	55	Sun pd
Penzance	11.6	—	14	57	Sunny
Jersey	12.4	—	13	55	Sunny
Guernsey	12.4	—	13	55	Sunny
Scilly Isles	10.1	—	13	55	Sunny
Ilfracombe	0.5	—	9	48	Fog
Tenby	6.1	—	14	57	Fog am
Anglesey	11.3	—	14	57	Sunny
Colwyn Bay	9.1	—	12	54	Sun pds
Southport	12.0	—	15	59	Sunny
Blackpool	10.8	—	15	59	Sunny
Morecambe	7.9	—	13	55	Sun pds
Douglas	10.4	—	13	55	Sunny
Aldergrove	8.6	—	15	59	Sun pds
Eskdalemuir	2.7	—	13	55	Cloudy
Prestwick	7.3	.01	13	55	Sun pds
Abbotsinch	4.0	—	14	57	Sun int
Tiree	0.5	—	11	52	Cloudy
Stornoway	0.5	.02	12	54	Rain
Lerwick	0.3	.18	10	50	Rain
Wick	3.5	.04	14	57	Showers
Kinloss	3.3	—	13	55	Sun int
Dyce	3.4	—	14	57	Sun int

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F
Ajaccio	c	11	52
Akrotiri	s	23	73
Alexandria	s	25	77
Algiers	f	14	57
Amsterdam	s	12	54
Athens	c	21	70
Copenhagen	s	09	48
Corfu	f	22	72
Dublin	c	14	57
Dubrovnik	s	23	73
Faro	s	19	66
Majorca	c	14	57
Malaga	c	15	59
Malta	s	21	70
Melbourne*	f	30	86
Mexico C*	s	25	77
Rome	f	16	61
Salzburg	s	9	48
Sao Paulo*	f	20	68
Seoul	s	15	59
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

* denotes last night's figures are latest available